

SB164 INTRODUCED



1 SB164

2 QP8E551-1

3 By Senators Price, Williams, Sessions, Jones

4 RFD: Agriculture, Conservation, and Forestry

5 First Read: 27-Feb-24



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4 SYNOPSIS:

5 Under existing law, limitations of liability for
6 certain actions taken by equines are provided to their
7 owners.

8 This bill would provide limitations of liability
9 for certain actions taken by bovines to their owners.

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12 A BILL

13 TO BE ENTITLED

14 AN ACT

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16 Relating to animals; to provide limitations of
17 liability for certain actions of bovines to their owners.

18 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

19 Section 1. (a) For the purposes of this section, the
20 following terms have the following meanings, unless the
21 context requires otherwise:

22 (1) BOVINE. Any buffalo, bison, cattle, or oxen.

23 (2) BOVINE ACTIVITY. Any activity involving one or more
24 bovine, including, but not limited to, any of the following:

25 a. Grazing, herding, feeding, branding, milking, or
26 other activity that involves the care or maintenance of a
27 bovine.

28 b. A bovine auction or production sale.



29 c. A bovine show, fair, or competition.
30 d. Bovine training or teaching activities.
31 e. Boarding a bovine.
32 f. Riding, inspecting, or evaluating a bovine.
33 (3) BOVINE OWNER. Any person with ownership rights to a
34 bovine.

35 (4) INHERENT RISK OF A BOVINE ACTIVITY. A danger or
36 condition that is an integral part of a bovine activity,
37 including, but not limited to, any of the following:

38 a. The propensity of a bovine to behave in ways that
39 may result in injury, loss, damage, or death to a person on or
40 around the bovine.

41 b. The unpredictability of a bovine's reaction to
42 sounds, sudden movements, and unfamiliar objects, individuals,
43 and other animals.

44 c. Certain hazards on the property, such as surface and
45 subsurface conditions.

46 d. Collisions with other bovines or objects.

47 (5) PERSON. An individual, corporation, or any other
48 legal entity.

49 (b) (1) A bovine owner shall not be liable for any
50 injury, loss, damage, or death of a person resulting from an
51 inherent risk of a bovine activity.

52 (2) Except as provided in subsection (c), no person
53 shall make any claim against, maintain an action against, or
54 recover from a bovine owner for injury, loss, damage, or death
55 of a person resulting from an inherent risk of a bovine
56 activity.



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57 (c) (1) Subsection (b) shall not be construed to prevent
58 or limit the liability of a bovine owner if the owner does
59 either of the following:

60 a. Fails to post and maintain warning signs pursuant to
61 subsection (d).

62 b. Commits an act or omission that constitutes willful
63 or wanton disregard for the safety of a person, and that act
64 or omission causes the injury, loss, damage, or death of a
65 person.

66 (2) Article 2 of Chapter 15 of Title 35, Code of
67 Alabama 1975, shall not apply to a bovine owner if injury,
68 loss, damage, or death of a person results from an inherent
69 risk of a bovine activity.

70 (d) (1) A bovine owner shall post and maintain signs
71 that contain the warning notice specified in subdivision (2).
72 A sign shall be placed in a clearly visible location on or
73 near a stable, corral, fence, enclosure, or arena where the
74 owner conducts bovine activities. The warning notice shall
75 appear in black letters, with each letter being a minimum of
76 one inch in height.

"WARNING

Under Alabama Law, a bovine owner is not liable for any injury, loss, damage, or death of a person resulting from the inherent risks of bovine activities, pursuant to this act."

84 Section 2. This act shall become effective on January

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85 1, 2025.