

# An Act

ENROLLED HOUSE  
BILL NO. 2986

By: Kane of the House

and

Alvord of the Senate

An Act relating to livestock; defining terms; providing for designation of open pasture roads; establishing requirements for certain designation; requiring issuance of certain notice; providing exemption for liability for certain damages; prohibiting certain further designations; stating conditions for ending of certain designation; requiring certain action by landowners upon removal of designation; amending 4 O.S. 2021, Section 99, which relates to the enclosure of domestic animals; providing certain exemption; providing for codification; and providing an effective date.

SUBJECT: Livestock

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 116 of Title 4, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

A. As used in this section:

1. "Cattle crossing signage" means a sign in a twenty-four (24) inch diamond shape that depicts a black cow graphic on a yellow background; and

2. "Open pasture road" means a road maintained by a county; land on both sides of the road is owned by the same owner; and a roadway without fencing.

B. Any public road, as defined in Section 232 of Title 69 of the Oklahoma Statutes, in whole or in part, that is maintained by a county and that meets the following conditions by November 1, 2025, shall be designated as an open pasture road:

1. Cattle guards have been installed at the access points of such road or part thereof;

2. The land on either side of the road or part thereof to be designated is owned by a single party; and

3. There is no fencing erected on such land on either side of the road.

It shall be the responsibility of the property owner to notify the board of county commissioners that the roadway is eligible to be designated as an open pasture road. Such notification shall state the proposed action and clearly show on a map the location and terminals of the road. The map shall also demonstrate that the property where the road is located belongs to the property owner requesting such designation.

C. The board of county commissioners shall cause the erection of cattle crossing signage at the terminals of the open pasture road. The cost associated with such signage shall be provided by the property owner requesting such designation.

D. Neither the property owner nor the owner of livestock that are on property where an open pasture road is located shall be liable for damages to any motor vehicle or occupants thereof caused by collision with livestock on a designated open pasture road.

E. Only a public road meeting the requirements of subsection B of this section on November 1, 2025, may be designated as an open pasture road. After such date, even if conditions on a property change to meet the requirements of subsection B of this section, such property may not be designated as an open pasture road.

F. Once annually, the owner of a property where an open pasture road is located shall provide notice to the board of county commissioners demonstrating that the property continues to meet the

requirements of subsection B of this section. Such notice shall also include an indication that the property owner desires such designation to continue. If such property owner indicates that they no longer desire for such designation to continue, or if the notice demonstrates that the property no longer meets any of the conditions required by subsection B of this section, the road shall lose the designation and the owner of such property shall have thirty (30) days after the board of county commissioners receives such notice to ensure any livestock on the property are fenced out of the roadway.

SECTION 2. AMENDATORY 4 O.S. 2021, Section 99, is amended to read as follows:

Section 99. A. Any person who:

1. Willfully omits to keep a domestic animal such person owns or has charge of within a suitable enclosure;

2. Allows the animal to be unrestrained or to run at large, with notice, actual or constructive, that the enclosure within which the animal is kept is open; or

3. Knowingly causes a domestic animal to escape confinement,

shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction thereof shall be punished by a fine of not more than Fifty Dollars (\$50.00) for each offense, or not more than thirty (30) ~~days~~ days of imprisonment in the county jail for each offense, or by both such fine and imprisonment.

B. The provisions of this section shall not apply to domestic animals that are on a county road designated as an open pasture road as provided for in Section 1 of this act.

C. For the purpose of this act, the term "domestic animals" shall not include domestic house pets.

SECTION 3. This act shall become effective November 1, 2024.

Passed the House of Representatives the 6th day of March, 2024.

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Presiding Officer of the House  
of Representatives

Passed the Senate the 23rd day of April, 2024.

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Presiding Officer of the Senate

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

Received by the Office of the Governor this \_\_\_\_\_

day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_\_, at \_\_\_\_\_ o'clock \_\_\_\_\_ M.

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Approved by the Governor of the State of Oklahoma this \_\_\_\_\_

day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_\_, at \_\_\_\_\_ o'clock \_\_\_\_\_ M.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Governor of the State of Oklahoma

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE

Received by the Office of the Secretary of State this \_\_\_\_\_

day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_\_, at \_\_\_\_\_ o'clock \_\_\_\_\_ M.

By: \_\_\_\_\_

