

1 State of Arkansas As Engrossed: H4/13/21 H4/19/21

2 93rd General Assembly

# A Bill

3 Regular Session, 2021

HOUSE BILL 1883

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5 By: Representatives Christiansen, Vaught, Lundstrum, Beaty Jr., Cavanaugh, Coleman, M. Gray, Hudson,

6 Lowery, McClure, McGrew, Payton, Tollett

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## For An Act To Be Entitled

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AN ACT CONCERNING WORKING ANIMAL PROTECTIONS; AND FOR

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OTHER PURPOSES.

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## Subtitle

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THE WORKING ANIMAL PROTECTION ACT.

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BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

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SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 14, Chapter 54, Subchapter 11, is amended to add an additional section to read as follows:

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14-54-1105. Working animal protection – Definition.

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(a)(1) As used in this section, "working animal" means a nonhuman animal used for the purpose of performing a specific duty or function in commerce or animal enterprise, including without limitation human service, transportation, education, competition, or exhibition.

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(2) As used in this section, "working animal" does not mean poultry, swine, dairy cows, beef cattle, sheep, goats, or other similar nonperformance production enterprise.

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(b)(1) Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, the right to utilize a working animal for the benefit and welfare of the working animal or the individual the working animal serves is guaranteed.

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(2) An ordinance or resolution shall not be enacted by a municipality that terminates, bans, effectively bans, or creates an undue hardship relating to the job or use of a working animal or animal enterprise in commerce, service, legal hunting, agriculture, husbandry, transportation, ranching, entertainment, education, or exhibition.

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1       (c) This section does not alter state laws or rules that regulate  
2 animal care, public health, or public safety, including without limitation §  
3 5-62-101 et seq., and § 14-54-103.

4       (d) This section does not prohibit a municipality from establishing or  
5 altering an ordinance regarding animal care, public health, or public safety.

6       (e) This section supersedes a municipal ordinance, resolution, or rule  
7 that conflicts with this section but does not supersede a municipal zoning  
8 ordinance under § 14-56-401 et seq.

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10    /s/Christiansen

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13    **APPROVED: 4/30/21**  
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