

SENATE BILL 1923

By Faulk

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 43;
Title 44 and Title 53, to enact the "Tennessee
Small Farm Economic Revitalization Act".

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

SECTION 1. This act shall be known and may be cited as the "Tennessee Small Farm Economic Revitalization Act".

SECTION 2. The general assembly finds the following:

- (1) The state of Tennessee values its farming families;
- (2) Farming in Tennessee is near extinction, as evidenced by the declining number of Tennessee farms and farmers year, after year, after year;
- (3) For Tennessee farmers to succeed it is necessary the state of Tennessee acknowledge the rights of her citizens to profit from their land, unimpeded by burdensome government regulations and bureaucracy;
- (4) All farmers have a common law right to sell the produce from their own property.

SECTION 3. As used in this act:

- (1) "End consumer" means an individual who purchases and will personally consume the products or animals purchased pursuant to subdivision (1); and
- (2) "Farmgate sales" means sales of agricultural products or animals raised by an individual farmer or the farmer's family to an end customer on land owned by such farmer or the farmer's family;

SECTION 4.

Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, no government regulations concerning or restricting the sale of agricultural products or animals shall apply to farmgate sales made under the following conditions:

(1) Farmgate sales shall include only items or animals raised, grown, and processed on the farm from which they are sold;

(2) All farmgate sales must be made directly to the end customer. Such sales shall be strictly private contracts between the individual farmer or the farmer's family and the end consumer and occur on the farm from which the farmgate sales are made;

(3) All farmgate sale items must include a label listing the farm name, if any, the owner's name, farm address, and farm telephone number;

(4) Restaurants, stores, and corporations are prohibited from making farmgate purchases.

SECTION 5. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.