

SENATE BILL 2603

By Niceley

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 39;  
Title 40; Title 44; Title 47 and Title 53, relative to  
cell-cultured food products.

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

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 53-1-105, is amended by deleting subsection (b) and substituting:

(b)

(1) As used in this subsection (b):

(A) "Cell-cultured protein" means a food product intended for use as human food that is produced without slaughter by growing, in a controlled environment, cells harvested from species amenable to the Federal Meat Inspection Act (21 U.S.C. § 601 et seq.) or Poultry Products Inspection Act (21 U.S.C. § 451 et seq.);

(B) "Meat" has the same meaning as defined in § 53-7-202;

(C) "Meat food product" has the same meaning as defined in § 53-7-202;

(D) "Poultry" has the same meaning as defined in § 53-7-202;

(E) "Poultry product" has the same meaning as defined in § 53-7-202; and

(F) "Tennessee-raised" means:

(i) For poultry or a poultry product, that the poultry was raised solely in this state from no later than the seventh day after hatching and processed solely in this state; and

(ii) For meat or a meat food product, that the animal was born, raised, and processed solely in this state.

(2)

(A) Meat, a meat food product, poultry, or a poultry product offered for sale, sold, or distributed in this state and labeled or advertised as "Tennessee-raised" or by a similar designation is misbranded if the poultry or animal was not raised in this state.

(B) The commissioner may waive a determination that meat, a meat food product, poultry, or a poultry product is misbranded under subdivision (b)(2)(A) upon application of the producer or processor, if the commissioner finds that a waiver is warranted due to economic factors, including the proximity of processing facilities to the producer and the availability of processing facilities in this state.

(3) A cell-cultured protein offered for sale, sold, or distributed in this state and labeled or advertised as meat, a meat food product, poultry, or a poultry product is misbranded.

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 53-7-202, is amended by deleting subdivision (15) and substituting:

(15) "Meat":

(A) Means the edible part of the muscle of cattle, deer, sheep, swine, or goats that is skeletal or that is found in the tongue, in the diaphragm, in the heart, or in the esophagus, with or without the accompanying and overlying fat, and the portions of bone, skin, sinew, nerve, and blood vessels that normally accompany the muscle tissue and that are not separated from it in the process of dressing; and

(B) Does not include:

- (i) The muscle found in the lips, snout, or ears; or
- (ii) A cell-cultured food protein;

SECTION 3. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 53-7-202, is amended by deleting subdivision (17) and substituting:

(17) "Meat food product":

(A) Means an article of food, or an article intended for or capable of use as human food, that is derived or prepared, in whole or in part, from any portion of any livestock or deer, unless exempted by the commissioner upon the commissioner's determination that the article:

- (i) Contains only a minimal amount of meat and is not represented as a meat food product; or
- (ii) Is for medicinal purposes and is advertised only to the medical profession; and

(B) Does not include a cell-cultured protein;

SECTION 4. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 53-7-202, is amended by deleting subdivision (21) and substituting:

(21) "Poultry":

(A) Means a live or slaughtered domesticated bird; and

(B) Does not include a cell-cultured protein;

SECTION 5. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 53-7-202, is amended by deleting subdivision (22) and substituting:

(22) "Poultry product":

(A) Means any poultry that has been slaughtered for human food from which the blood, feathers, feet, head, and viscera have been removed in

accordance with rules and regulations promulgated by the commissioner, any edible part of poultry, or any human food product consisting of any edible part of poultry separately or in combination with other ingredients. However, any human food product may be exempted from being classified as a poultry product by the commissioner upon the commissioner's determination that the product:

(i) Contains only a minimal amount of poultry and is not represented as a poultry product; or

(ii) Is used for medicinal purposes and is advertised only to the medical profession; and

(B) Does not include a cell-cultured protein;

SECTION 6. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 53-7-202, is amended by adding the following as a new subdivision:

( ) "Cell-cultured protein" means a food product intended for use as human food that is produced without slaughter by growing, in a controlled environment, cells harvested from species amenable to the Federal Meat Inspection Act (21 U.S.C. § 601 et seq.) or Poultry Products Inspection Act (21 U.S.C. § 451 et seq.);

SECTION 7. This act takes effect July 1, 2024, the public welfare requiring it.