

By Mr. Tolman, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 552) of Steven A. Tolman, Susan C. Fargo, Pamela P. Resor, Louis L. Kafka and other members of the General Court for legislation relative to the protection of farm animals. Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand and Five.

AN ACT RELATIVE TO THE PROTECTION OF FARM ANIMALS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1 SECTION 1. (a) Any person who confines a pregnant pig in an
2 enclosure, or tethers a pregnant pig for all or the majority of any
3 day, on a farm in a manner that prevents the pig from turning
4 around freely is in violation of the law.

5 (b) This section shall not apply during the prebirthing period.

6 (c) The following definitions shall govern this section:

7 (1) "Pre-birthing period" means the seven day period prior to
8 the pig's expected date of giving birth.

9 (2) "Turning around freely" means turning around in a com-
10 plete circle without any impediment or in the case of an enclosure,
11 without touching any side of the enclosure.

12 (3) "Enclosure" means any cage, crate, or other enclosure in
13 which a pig is kept for all or the majority of any day, including
14 what is commonly described as the "gestation crate."

15 (4) "Farm" means the land, buildings, support facilities, and
16 other appurtenances used in the production of animals for food or
17 fiber.

1 SECTION 2. (a) Any person who confines a calf in an enclo-
2 sure, or who tethers a calf for all or the majority of any day, on a
3 farm in a manner that prevents the calf from turning around freely
4 or grooming itself completely is in violation of the law.

5 (b) Any person who does not provide a calf a daily diet con-
6 taining sufficient iron to prevent anemia or sufficient solid food to
7 prevent impairment of the development of its rumen is in violation
8 of the law.

9 (c) The following definitions shall govern this section:

10 (1) "Enclosure" means any cage, crate, or other enclosure in
11 which a calf is kept for all or the majority of any day, including
12 what is commonly described as the "veal crate".

13 (2) "Farm" means the land, buildings, support facilities, and
14 other appurtenances used in the production of animals for food
15 and fiber.

16 (3) "Turning around freely" means turning around in a com-
17 plete circle without any impediment, or in the case of an enclo-
18 sure, without touching any side of the enclosure.