

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2015

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HOUSE BILL 553  
Committee Substitute Favorable 4/21/15  
Senate Agriculture/Environment/Natural Resources Committee Substitute Adopted  
7/22/15

Short Title: Ordinances Regulating Animals.

(Public)

Sponsors:

Referred to:

April 6, 2015

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT TO AMEND THE AUTHORITY OF CITIES AND COUNTIES TO ADOPT  
ORDINANCES REGARDING ANIMALS.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

**SECTION 1.** Article 6 of Chapter 153A of the General Statutes is amended by  
adding a new section to read:

**"§ 153A-145.4. Limitations on standards of care for farm animals.**

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, no county ordinance may regulate standards of  
care for farm animals. For purposes of this section, "standards of care for farm animals"  
includes the following: the construction, repair, or improvement of farm animal shelter or  
housing; restrictions on the types of feed or medicines that may be administered to farm  
animals; and exercise and social interaction requirements. For purposes of this section, the term  
"farm animals" includes the following domesticated animals: cattle, oxen, bison, sheep, swine,  
goats, horses, ponies, mules, donkeys, hinnies, llamas, alpacas, lagomorphs, ratites, and  
poultry."

**SECTION 2.** Article 8 of Chapter 160A of the General Statutes is amended by  
adding a new section to read:

**"§ 160A-203.1. Limitations on standards of care for farm animals.**

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, no city ordinance may regulate standards of  
care for farm animals. For purposes of this section, "standards of care for farm animals"  
includes the following: the construction, repair, or improvement of farm animal shelter or  
housing; restrictions on the types of feed or medicines that may be administered to farm  
animals; and exercise and social interaction requirements. For purposes of this section, the term  
"farm animals" includes the following domesticated animals: cattle, oxen, bison, sheep, swine,  
goats, horses, ponies, mules, donkeys, hinnies, llamas, alpacas, lagomorphs, ratites, and poultry  
flocks of greater than 20 birds."

**SECTION 3.** This act is effective when it becomes law.

