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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2024

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A N A C T

RELATING TO ANIMALS AND ANIMAL HUSBANDRY -- UNLAWFUL CONFINEMENT  
OF A COVERED ANIMAL

Introduced By: Senators Rogers, Tikoian, de la Cruz, F. Lombardi, McKenney, Burke, E  
Morgan, Paolino, DeLuca, and Ciccone

Date Introduced: January 24, 2024

Referred To: Senate Environment & Agriculture

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 4-1.1-4 of the General Laws in Chapter 4-1.1 entitled "Unlawful  
2 Confinement of a Covered Animal" is hereby amended to read as follows:

3 **4-1.1-4. Exceptions. [Effective July 1, 2026.]**

4 This chapter shall not apply:

5 (1) During medical research;

6 (2) Temporary confinement prior to and during examination, testing, individual treatment  
7 or operation for veterinary purposes;

8 (3) During transportation;

9 (4) During rodeo exhibitions, state or county fair exhibitions, 4-H programs, and similar  
10 exhibitions or educational programs;

11 (5) During temporary confinement for animal husbandry purposes for no more than six (6)  
12 hours in any twenty-four-hour (24) period, unless ordered by a licensed veterinarian;

13 (6) During the humane slaughter of a covered animal in accordance with the provisions of  
14 chapter 17 of this title, and other applicable laws and regulations;

15 (7) To a sow during the five-day (5) period prior to the sow's expected date of giving birth  
16 and any day that the sow is nursing piglets;

17 (8) To calves being trained to exhibit; ~~and~~

18 (9) To calves being trained to accept routine confinement in dairy and beef housing; ~~and~~ [and](#)

1           (10) Egg laying hens kept for commercial egg production until January 1, 2034, at which  
2 time this exemption shall expire.

3           SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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EXPLANATION  
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
OF

A N A C T

RELATING TO ANIMALS AND ANIMAL HUSBANDRY -- UNLAWFUL CONFINEMENT  
OF A COVERED ANIMAL

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- 1           This act would exempt egg laying hens kept for commercial egg production purposes from
- 2 the provisions of chapter 4-1.1 until January 1, 2034.
- 3           This act would take effect upon passage.

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