

# 2015 -- H 6100 SUBSTITUTE A

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LC002450/SUB A/2  
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## STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2015

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A N A C T

RELATING TO AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY - RIGHT TO FARM

Introduced By: Representatives Naughton, Shekarchi, Bennett, Keable, and Solomon

Date Introduced: April 17, 2015

Referred To: House Environment and Natural Resources

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1           SECTION 1. Section 2-23-4 of the General Laws in Chapter 2-23 entitled "Right to  
2 Farm" is hereby amended to read as follows:

3           **2-23-4. "Agricultural operations" defined.** -- (a) As used in this chapter, "agricultural  
4 operations" includes any commercial enterprise that has as its primary purpose horticulture,  
5 viticulture, viniculture, floriculture, forestry, stabling of horses, dairy farming, or aquaculture, or  
6 the raising of livestock, including for the production of fiber, furbearing animals, poultry, or bees,  
7 and all such other operations, uses, and activities as the director, in consultation with the chief of  
8 division of agriculture, may determine to be agriculture, or an agricultural activity, use or  
9 operation. The mixed-use of farms and farmlands for other forms of enterprise including, but not  
10 limited to, the display of antique vehicles and equipment, retail sales, tours, classes, petting,  
11 feeding and viewing of animals, hay rides, crop mazes, festivals, [weddings](#) and other special  
12 events are hereby recognized as a valuable and viable means of contributing to the preservation of  
13 agriculture [and shall be supported under this chapter.](#)

14           (b) Nothing herein shall be deemed to restrict, limit, or prohibit ~~nonagricultural~~  
15 ~~operations~~ [the mixed use of farms and farmlands](#) from being undertaken on a farm except as  
16 otherwise restricted, regulated, [or](#) limited, ~~or prohibited~~ by law, regulation, or ordinance or to  
17 affect the rights of persons to engage in other lawful nonagricultural enterprises on farms;  
18 provided, ~~however~~ [further](#), that the protections and rights established by this chapter shall ~~not~~ [also](#)  
19 apply to such nonagricultural activities, uses or operations.

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

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EXPLANATION  
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
OF

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1           This act would add weddings to the list of permissible mixed-uses of farms and  
2 farmlands.

3           This act would take effect upon passage.

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