



General Assembly

**Amendment**

February Session, 2014

LCO No. 3915

**\*HB0541603915HDO\***

Offered by:

REP. URBAN, 43<sup>rd</sup> Dist.

REP. HENNESSY, 127<sup>th</sup> Dist.

REP. MEGNA, 97<sup>th</sup> Dist.

To: Subst. House Bill No. 5416

File No. 466

Cal. No. 274

**"AN ACT ESTABLISHING A LIVESTOCK CARE STANDARDS  
ADVISORY COUNCIL."**

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and substitute the  
2 following in lieu thereof:

3 "Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2014*) (a) There is established a  
4 Livestock Care Standards Advisory Council that shall consist of the  
5 following members: (1) The Commissioner of Agriculture; (2) the state  
6 veterinarian; (3) a Connecticut-based veterinarian who is a member of  
7 the Humane Society Veterinary Medical Association, as appointed by  
8 the Commissioner of Agriculture; (4) a representative of the  
9 Connecticut Farm Bureau, as appointed by the Commissioner of  
10 Agriculture; (5) a Connecticut-based livestock or poultry farmer who  
11 has a current membership in a humane certification program, as  
12 appointed by the Commissioner of Agriculture; (6) a representative of  
13 the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station, as appointed by the  
14 Commissioner of Agriculture; (7) a representative of a national non-

15 profit animal welfare organization, as appointed by the Commissioner  
16 of Agriculture; and (8) a representative of the Connecticut chapter of  
17 the Northeast Organic Farming Association, as appointed by the  
18 Commissioner of Agriculture. Each appointed member shall serve for  
19 a term of three years from the date of his or her appointment. No  
20 appointed member shall serve for more than two terms. No member  
21 shall receive compensation for his or her service on the advisory  
22 council.

23 (b) The Commissioner of Agriculture shall serve as the chairperson  
24 of the advisory council. The advisory council shall meet at such times  
25 as the chairperson determines is necessary, provided the advisory  
26 council meets not less than once per calendar year and the first  
27 meeting of the advisory council occurs not later than ninety days after  
28 the effective date of this section. A quorum shall be required for the  
29 advisory council to conduct business. Five members of the advisory  
30 council shall constitute a quorum. The advisory council shall be  
31 located in the Department of Agriculture for administrative purposes  
32 only.

33 (c) The advisory council shall have the following duties: (1) Conduct  
34 a review and evaluation of state laws applicable to the care and  
35 handling of livestock; (2) submit policy recommendations, including,  
36 but not limited to, legislative recommendations, to the Commissioner  
37 of Agriculture concerning the care and handling of livestock. In  
38 performing such review and evaluation, the advisory council shall  
39 consider the following: (A) The overall health and welfare of livestock  
40 species, (B) agricultural best management practices, (C) biosecurity  
41 and disease prevention, (D) animal morbidity and mortality data, (E)  
42 food safety practices, (F) the protection of local and affordable food  
43 supplies for state residents, and (G) humane transport and slaughter  
44 practices; and (3) submit a recommendation to the joint standing  
45 committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters  
46 relating to the environment concerning the need to regulate the  
47 tethering or confining of gestating sows by farm owners or operators.

48 Concomitant with the submission of any recommendation to the  
49 Commissioner of Agriculture, the advisory council shall submit,  
50 pursuant to section 11-4a of the general statutes, such recommendation  
51 to the joint committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of  
52 matters relating to agriculture. The advisory council may engage in  
53 outreach and education activities related to state laws concerning the  
54 care and handling of livestock."

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>October 1, 2014</i>	New section