



General Assembly

February Session, 2024

Raised Bill No. 196

LCO No. 1109



Referred to Committee on ENVIRONMENT

Introduced by:
(ENV)

AN ACT CONCERNING THE HARVESTING OF RABBITS FOR THE LOCAL FOOD SUPPLY.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2024*) The Commissioner of
2 Agriculture shall be the state official in charge of inspecting any
3 producer and any producer that also operates as a rabbit processing
4 facility. Any inspection conducted pursuant to this section by the
5 commissioner, or the commissioner's designated agent, shall be
6 consistent with the requirements of any applicable provision of the
7 Code of Federal Regulations, including, but not limited to, any health,
8 sanitary and safety-related provision. Rabbit processing facilities that
9 have passed Department of Agriculture facility inspections pursuant to
10 this section shall be designated as approved food sources for household
11 consumers, restaurants, hotels, boarding houses and retail food
12 establishments. For purposes of this section, "producer" means any
13 person who is engaged in farming, as defined in section 1-1 of the
14 general statutes, and who breeds, raises or keeps not more than one
15 thousand rabbits in a calendar year for the purpose of food production.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>October 1, 2024</i>	New section

Statement of Purpose:

To provide authority for the inspection and processing of rabbits in the state for the purpose of supplying local restaurants and consumers.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]