

CERTIFICATION OF ENROLLMENT

**SENATE BILL 5082**

Chapter 105, Laws of 1993

53rd Legislature  
1993 Regular Session

RATITES DEFINED AS POULTRY

EFFECTIVE DATE: 7/25/93

Passed by the Senate March 5, 1993  
YEAS 46 NAYS 0

JOEL PRITCHARD

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**President of the Senate**

Passed by the House April 5, 1993  
YEAS 92 NAYS 0

BRIAN EBERSOLE

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**Speaker of the  
House of Representatives**

Approved April 23, 1993

MIKE LOWRY

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**Governor of the State of Washington**

CERTIFICATE

I, Marty Brown, Secretary of the Senate of the State of Washington, do hereby certify that the attached is **SENATE BILL 5082** as passed by the Senate and the House of Representatives on the dates hereon set forth.

MARTY BROWN

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**Secretary**

FILED

April 23, 1993 - 3:19 p.m.

**Secretary of State  
State of Washington**

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**SENATE BILL 5082**

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Passed Legislature - 1993 Regular Session

**State of Washington**                      **53rd Legislature**                      **1993 Regular Session**

**By** Senators M. Rasmussen, Barr, Erwin and Bauer

Read first time 01/13/93. Referred to Committee on Agriculture.

1            AN ACT Relating to poultry farming; amending RCW 16.57.010; adding  
2 a new section to chapter 16.57 RCW; adding a new section to chapter  
3 16.36 RCW; and creating a new section.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

5            NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that ratites have been  
6 raised for commercial purposes on farms in the United States for over  
7 sixty years and have been raised elsewhere for over one hundred twenty  
8 years.

9            In recognition that ratite farming is an agricultural pursuit, the  
10 purpose of this act is to assure that the regulatory mechanisms  
11 regarding animal health and ownership identification are in place.

12            **Sec. 2.** RCW 16.57.010 and 1989 c 286 s 22 are each amended to read  
13 as follows:

14            For the purpose of this chapter:

15            (1) "Department" means the department of agriculture of the state  
16 of Washington.

17            (2) "Director" means the director of the department or a duly  
18 appointed representative.

1 (3) "Person" means a natural person, individual, firm, partnership,  
2 corporation, company, society, and association, and every officer,  
3 agent or employee thereof. This term shall import either the singular  
4 or the plural as the case may be.

5 (4) "Livestock" includes, but is not limited to, horses, mules,  
6 cattle, sheep, swine, goats, poultry and rabbits.

7 (5) "Brand" means a permanent fire brand or any artificial mark,  
8 other than an individual identification symbol, approved by the  
9 director to be used in conjunction with a brand or by itself.

10 (6) "Production record brand" means a number brand which shall be  
11 used for production identification purposes only.

12 (7) "Brand inspection" means the examination of livestock or  
13 livestock hides for brands or any means of identifying livestock or  
14 livestock hides and/or the application of any artificial identification  
15 such as back tags or ear clips necessary to preserve the identity of  
16 the livestock or livestock hides examined.

17 (8) "Individual identification symbol" means a permanent mark  
18 placed on a horse for the purpose of individually identifying and  
19 registering the horse and which has been approved for use as such by  
20 the director.

21 (9) "Registering agency" means any person issuing an individual  
22 identification symbol for the purpose of individually identifying and  
23 registering a horse.

24 (10) "Poultry" means chickens, turkeys, ratites, and other  
25 domesticated fowl.

26 (11) "Ratite" means, but is not limited to, ostrich, emu, rhea, or  
27 other flightless bird used for human consumption, whether live or  
28 slaughtered.

29 (12) "Ratite farming" means breeding, raising, and rearing of an  
30 ostrich, emu, or rhea in captivity or an enclosure.

31 (13) "Microchipping" means the implantation of an identification  
32 microchip in the pipping muscle of a chick ratite or the implantation  
33 of a microchip in the tail muscle of an otherwise unidentified adult  
34 ratite.

35 NEW SECTION. Sec. 3. A new section is added to chapter 16.57 RCW  
36 to read as follows:

37 The department may, in consultation with representatives of the  
38 ratite industry, develop by rule a system that provides for the

1 identification of individual ratites through the use of microchipping.  
2 The department may establish fees for the issuance or reissuance of  
3 microchipping numbers sufficient to cover the expenses of the  
4 department.

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** A new section is added to chapter 16.36 RCW  
6 to read as follows:

7 (1) Poultry as defined in RCW 16.57.010 is subject to this chapter,  
8 including, but not limited to, quarantines, health certificate  
9 requirements, and rules adopted by the director.

10 (2) The department shall, in consultation with the ratite industry,  
11 the poultry industry, and other affected groups, review the adequacy of  
12 existing animal health regulations that pertain to ratites. The  
13 department shall adopt rules as deemed necessary to assure adequate  
14 protection to the ratite and poultry industries from a potential  
15 importation or spread of contagious diseases and parasites.

Passed the Senate March 5, 1993.

Passed the House April 5, 1993.

Approved by the Governor April 23, 1993.

Filed in Office of Secretary of State April 23, 1993.