
SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1735

State of Washington

69th Legislature

2026 Regular Session

By House Agriculture & Natural Resources (originally sponsored by Representatives Parshley, Leavitt, Fitzgibbon, Berg, Rude, Fosse, Shavers, Reed, Ormsby, Thai, Farivar, Hill, Scott, Bernbaum, Pollet, Macri, Ryu, and Ramel)

READ FIRST TIME 02/04/26.

1 AN ACT Relating to the force-feeding of birds; adding a new
2 chapter to Title 16 RCW; prescribing penalties; and providing an
3 effective date.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The definitions in this section apply
6 throughout this chapter unless the context clearly requires
7 otherwise.

8 (1) "Bird" includes, but is not limited to, any species of
9 domestic poultry including chicken, turkey, goose, or duck.

10 (2) "Department" means the department of agriculture.

11 (3) "Director" means the director of the department or his or her
12 duly authorized representative.

13 (4) "Foie gras" means the liver of a bird that has been
14 specifically fed to produce a large, fatty liver.

15 (5) "Force-feeding" means any process, whether implemented by
16 hand or machine, of feeding a bird that causes the bird to ingest
17 more food than a typical bird of the same species would consume
18 voluntarily. Force-feeding methods include, but are not limited to,
19 delivering feed through a tube or other device inserted into the
20 bird's esophagus.

1 (6) "Person" includes, but is not limited to, individuals,
2 partnerships, corporations, associations, and retail and restaurant
3 establishments.

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A person may not force-feed a bird, or
5 hire another person to force-feed a bird. This section does not apply
6 if a person force-feeds a bird as directed by a veterinarian for the
7 purpose of improving the bird's health.

8 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** A person may not knowingly sell, possess,
9 transport, or distribute any foie gras or any product that has been
10 produced using the practice of force-feeding.

11 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** When the director determines that a person
12 has violated any provisions of this chapter, the director may assess
13 a civil penalty of up to \$1,000 for each violation, and up to \$1,000
14 per day each day the violation continues. Moneys collected under this
15 section must be deposited into the state general fund.

16 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** The director has authority to administer
17 and enforce this chapter, and may adopt rules as necessary consistent
18 with chapter 34.05 RCW.

19 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 6.** Sections 1 through 5 and 7 of this act
20 constitute a new chapter in Title 16 RCW.

21 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 7.** This act takes effect January 1, 2028.

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