
HOUSE BILL 1735

State of Washington

69th Legislature

2025 Regular Session

By Representatives Parshley, Leavitt, Fitzgibbon, Berg, Rude, Fosse, Shavers, Reed, Ormsby, Thai, Farivar, Hill, Scott, Bernbaum, Pollet, Macri, Ryu, and Ramel

Read first time 01/30/25. Referred to Committee on Agriculture & Natural Resources.

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

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

18 (4) "Person" includes, but is not limited to, individuals,
19 partnerships, corporations, associations, and retail and restaurant
20 establishments.

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

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

9 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** A person violating this chapter is subject
10 to a civil penalty of up to \$1,000 for each violation, and up to
11 \$1,000 per day each day the violation continues. Moneys collected
12 under this section must be deposited into the state general fund.

13 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** Sections 1 through 4 of this act
14 constitute a new chapter in Title 16 RCW.

15 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 6.** This act takes effect January 1, 2028.

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