
SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1775

State of Washington

69th Legislature

2025 Regular Session

By House Agriculture & Natural Resources (originally sponsored by Representatives Walen, Parshley, Ramel, Springer, Peterson, Fosse, Ormsby, Pollet, Macri, Hill, and Leavitt)

READ FIRST TIME 02/21/25.

1 AN ACT Relating to prohibiting activities related to the
2 production and manufacturing of fur products; amending RCW 16.72.010
3 and 16.72.020; adding new sections to chapter 16.72 RCW; prescribing
4 penalties; providing an effective date; and providing expiration
5 dates.

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

7 **Sec. 1.** RCW 16.72.010 and 1955 c 321 s 2 are each amended to
8 read as follows:

9 (~~As used in this chapter:~~

10 ~~"Director" means director of agriculture.~~) The definitions in
11 this section apply throughout this chapter unless the context clearly
12 requires otherwise.

13 (1) "Department" means the department of agriculture.

14 (2) "Director" means the director of agriculture.

15 (3) "Fur" means any animal skin or part thereof with hair,
16 fleece, or fur fibers attached thereto, either in its raw or
17 processed state.

18 (4) "Fur farming" means breeding, raising, and rearing of mink,
19 marten, fox, and chinchilla in captivity or enclosures.

20 (5) (a) "Fur product" means any article of clothing or covering
21 for any part of the body, or any fashion accessory including, but not

1 limited to, handbags, shoes, slippers, hats, earmuffs, scarves,
2 shawls, gloves, jewelry, keychains, toys or trinkets, and home
3 accessories and decor, that is made in whole or in part of fur.

4 (b) "Fur product" does not include any of the following:

5 (i) An animal skin or part thereof that is to be converted into
6 leather, which in processing will have the hair, fleece, or fur fiber
7 completely removed;

8 (ii) Cowhide with hair attached thereto;

9 (iii) Deerskin, sheepskin, or goatskin with hair attached
10 thereto; and

11 (iv) The pelt or skin of an animal that is preserved through
12 taxidermy.

13 (6) "Person" includes any individual, firm corporation, trust,
14 association, copartnership, society, or other organization of
15 individuals and any other business unit, device, or arrangement.

16 (7) "Produce or manufacture" means to engage in any activity
17 related to processing raw materials to create a fur product for
18 distribution or sale.

19 (8) "Taxidermy" means the practice of preparing, stuffing, and
20 mounting the skin, in lifelike form, of any fish, reptile, amphibian,
21 bird, or mammal.

22 (9) "Ultimate consumer" means a person who buys for their own
23 use, or for the use of another, but not for resale or trade.

24 (10) "Used fur product" means fur in any form that has been worn
25 or used by an ultimate consumer.

26 NEW SECTION. Sec. 2. A new section is added to chapter 16.72
27 RCW to read as follows:

28 (1) Except as provided in subsection (2) of this section, a
29 person may not produce or manufacture a fur product, or fur-related
30 product, made from farmed fur unless the fur is sourced from a farm
31 that is a member of an organization that recognizes a professional
32 certification program that includes animal welfare and environmental
33 standards, and is fully in compliance with inspection and
34 certification requirements.

35 (2) The prohibitions in this section do not apply to any of the
36 following:

37 (a) A fur product used for religious purposes;

1 (b) A fur product used for traditional tribal, cultural, or
2 spiritual purposes by a member of a federally recognized Native
3 American tribe;

4 (c) Any activity expressly authorized by federal law;

5 (d) The manufacture of fur products to be used in fishing gear;
6 and

7 (e) A product where all of the fur used in its production is from
8 a used fur product.

9 (3) A person who sells or trades any used fur product or fur
10 product described in subsection (2) of this section shall maintain a
11 record of each sale or trade of one of those exempt fur products for
12 at least one year. A violation of this subsection is not subject to a
13 criminal or civil penalty.

14 (4) Except for subsection (3) of this section, a person violating
15 this section is guilty of a misdemeanor. Each fur product that
16 constitutes a violation must be treated as a separate and distinct
17 offense.

18 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** A new section is added to chapter 16.72
19 RCW to read as follows:

20 (1) The fur farm transition grant program is established in the
21 department of agriculture. Subject to the availability of amounts
22 appropriated for this specific purpose and as allowed by law, the
23 purpose of the program is to help existing fur farmers impacted by
24 this act transition out of fur farming. Grant funds may be used only
25 for technical assistance, permitting, new facility construction,
26 equipment, and labor costs associated with transitioning out of fur
27 farming. The department of agriculture may adopt rules to carry out
28 the grant program.

29 (2) This section expires June 30, 2028.

30 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** A new section is added to chapter 16.72
31 RCW to read as follows:

32 (1) The fur farm transition account is created in the custody of
33 the state treasurer. All receipts, any legislative appropriations,
34 federal funds, private donations, or any other private or public
35 source directed to the fur farm transition grant program must be
36 deposited into the account. Expenditures from the account may be used
37 only for the fur farm transition grant program established in section
38 3 of this act. Only the director of the department of agriculture or

1 the director's designee may authorize expenditures from the account.
2 The account is subject to allotment procedures under chapter 43.88
3 RCW, but an appropriation is not required for expenditures.

4 (2) This section expires June 30, 2028.

5 **Sec. 5.** RCW 16.72.020 and 1955 c 321 s 3 are each amended to
6 read as follows:

7 (1) Fur farming shall be deemed an agricultural pursuit and the
8 director is hereby authorized to exercise quarantine controls over
9 such farms in accordance with the provisions of this title.
10 Facilities available to the department may be used by the director in
11 carrying out the provisions of this chapter.

12 (2) A person may not engage in fur farming unless the person is a
13 member of an organization that recognizes a professional
14 certification program that includes animal welfare and environmental
15 standards, and is fully in compliance with inspection and
16 certification requirements.

17 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 6.** Sections 1, 2, and 5 of this act take
18 effect January 1, 2026.

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