

THE FLORIDA SENATE
2024 SUMMARY OF LEGISLATION PASSED
Committee on Agriculture

CS/CS/HB 273 — Pub. Rec./Animal Foster or Adoption

by State Affairs Committee; Local Administration, Federal Affairs & Special Districts Subcommittee; and Rep. Holcomb and others (SB 660 by Senator DiCeglie)

The bill creates a public record exemption for the personal identifying information of a person who fosters, adopts, or otherwise receives legal custody of an animal from a shelter or animal control agency operated by a humane society or a county, municipality, or other incorporated political subdivision. The bill provides a statement of public necessity as required by the State Constitution.

The public records exemption would stand repealed on October 2, 2029, unless it is reenacted by the Legislature under the Open Government Sunset Review Act.

If approved by the Governor, or allowed to become law without the Governor's signature, these provisions take effect upon becoming law.

Vote: Senate 36-0; House 119-0

THE FLORIDA SENATE
2024 SUMMARY OF LEGISLATION PASSED
Committee on Agriculture

CS/HB 303 — Rabies Vaccinations

by Regulatory Reform & Economic Development Subcommittee and Rep. Killebrew and others
(SB 334 by Senator Burgess)

The bill authorizes employees, agents, or contractors of an animal control authority or sheriff to administer rabies vaccinations to impounded dogs, cats, and ferrets that will be transferred, rescued, fostered, adopted, or reclaimed by the owner. The rabies vaccinations may be administered under the indirect supervision of a veterinarian, who must be available for consultation through telecommunications, but is not required to be physically present during the consultation. Under the bill, the supervising veterinarian assumes responsibility for the veterinary care given to the animal by any person working under the veterinarian's direction and supervision.

If approved by the Governor, or allowed to become law without the Governor's signature, these provisions take effect July 1, 2024.

Vote: Senate 39-0; House 115-0

THE FLORIDA SENATE
2024 SUMMARY OF LEGISLATION PASSED
Committee on Agriculture

CS/CS/SB 1084 — Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services

by Fiscal Policy Committee; Appropriations Committee on Agriculture, Environment, and General Government; and Senator Collins

The bill makes a number of changes to various regulatory activities of the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (department). Specifically, the bill:

- Preempts the regulation of electric vehicle charging stations to the state and prohibits local governmental entities from enacting or enforcing such regulations. The bill also expands the department’s rulemaking authority related to the requirements for electric vehicle charging stations.
- Provides an expiration date of the pest control operator’s certificate and amends requirements for its renewal.
- Prohibits applicants from swearing or affirming a false statement on an application for a pest control license, prohibits cheating on an examination required for licensure, and grants the department rulemaking authority to establish penalties for violations.
- Authorizes a Class “K” instructor to allow a Class “G” licensee to qualify for up to two calibers of firearms in a four hour firearm requalification class.
- Authorizes the department to appoint a tax collector to accept new, renewal, and replacement license applications on behalf of the department for licenses issued under ch. 493, F.S.
- Authorizes a tax collector appointed under s. 790.0625, F.S., to collect certain fees and provide certain services for concealed weapon or firearm licenses on behalf of the department.
- Revises certain information that charitable organizations, sponsors, professional fundraising consultants, and professional solicitors must provide to the department to include street addresses.
- Amends the contribution-based registration fee thresholds to remove an option related to contributions raised by non-compensated volunteers, members, officers, or permanent employees under \$50,000 in the previous year.
- Amends the charitable organizations’ exemption from registration thresholds to refer to total contributions.
- Revises the information that must be displayed on certain collection receptacles to include street addresses.
- Provides that a person who solicits funds within a public transportation facility must obtain a written permit that includes street addresses and must be displayed prominently on the person’s badge or insignia.
- Defines “cultivated meat” as any meat or food product produced from cultured animal cells.
- Provides that it is a second degree misdemeanor to knowingly sell cultivated meat within this state, and prohibits all phases related to such sale: manufacturing, distributing, holding, or offering. However, the bill does not prohibit the manufacture or possession of cultivated meat for research purposes.

This summary is provided for information only and does not represent the opinion of any Senator, Senate Officer, or Senate Office.
--

- Repeals the provision that requires the Weights and Measures Act to expire on July 1, 2024.
- Revises the information that must be provided to the department on a motor vehicle repair shop registration application and provides that the registration fee must be calculated for each location.
- Increases the threshold value of repair work which requires motor vehicle repair shops to provide a customer with a written repair estimate from \$100 to \$150.
- Increases the department's statutory authority to repair or build structures from \$250,000 to \$500,000.
- Changes the name of the Florida Agriculture Museum to the Florida Agriculture Legacy Learning Center, and makes conforming changes.
- Prohibits the willful destroying, harvesting, or selling of saw palmetto berries on private or public land without the written permission of the landowner, provides penalties for violations, and grants rulemaking authority to the department.
- Provides criminal penalties for trespassing on land classified as commercial agricultural property.
- Provides that a student's participation in a 4-H or Future Farmers of America (FFA) activity is an excused absence from school.

If approved by the Governor, or allowed to become law without the Governor's signature, these provisions take effect July 1, 2024, except where otherwise provided.

Vote: Senate 26-10; House 86-27

THE FLORIDA SENATE
2024 SUMMARY OF LEGISLATION PASSED
Committee on Agriculture

CS/SB 1698 — Food and Hemp Products

by Agriculture Committee and Senator Burton

The bill makes a number of changes to s. 581.217, F.S., the State Hemp Program. It modifies the definition of “attractive to children” to include containers displaying toys or other features that target children, as well as provides additional packaging requirements. It revises the definition of “hemp” to outline that hemp extract may not exceed 0.3 percent total delta-9-tetrahydrocannabinol concentration on a wet-weight basis or exceed 5 milligrams per serving and 50 milligrams per container on a wet-weight basis, whichever is less.

The bill revises the definition of “hemp extract” to include hemp intended for inhalation and to prohibit it from containing controlled substances listed in s. 893.03, F.S.; any quantity of synthetic cannabinoids; or delta-8-tetrahydrocannabinol, delta-10-tetrahydrocannabinol, hexahydrocannabinol, tetrahydrocannabinol acetate, tetrahydrocannabiphorol, or tetrahydrocannabivarin. It also creates a definition for “total delta-9-tetrahydrocannabinol concentration” to mean a concentration calculated as: $[\text{delta-9-tetrahydrocannabinol}] + (0.877 \times [\text{delta-9-tetrahydrocannabinolic acid}])$.

The bill adds requirements for the manufacture, delivery, hold, and offer for sale to the regulation of the distribution and sale of hemp extract. It specifies that if a batch is sold at retail that it must meet the new requirements for total delta-9-tetrahydrocannabinol concentration limits. It also requires such products to be sold in a container that includes the toll-free telephone number for the national Poison Help line.

The bill clarifies that hemp extract may only be sold to *or procured by* a business in this state if that business is properly permitted. A business or food establishment may not possess hemp extract products that are attractive to children.

The bill prohibits the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (department) from granting permission to remove or use, except for disposal, hemp extract products subject to a stop-sale order which are attractive to children until the department determines that the hemp extract products comply with state law.

The bill prohibits an event organizer from promoting, advertising, or facilitating an event where hemp extract products sold that do not comply with general law or are sold by a business that is not properly permitted. Before an event where hemp extract products are sold or marketed, an event organizer must provide the department with a list of the businesses selling or marketing hemp extract products at the event and verify that each business is only selling hemp products from an approved source. The event organizer must ensure that each participating business is properly permitted.

The bill appropriates \$2 million in nonrecurring funds from the General Revenue Fund to the Department of Law Enforcement for the purchase of testing equipment necessary to implement the changes made by the bill.

If approved by the Governor, or allowed to become law without the Governor's signature, these provisions take effect October 1, 2024.

Vote: Senate 39-0; House 64-48

THE FLORIDA SENATE
2024 SUMMARY OF LEGISLATION PASSED
Committee on Agriculture

SB 7026 — Public Records/Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services

by Agriculture Committee

The bill provides an exemption from public records requirements for records containing certain information pertaining to the Agriculture and Aquaculture Producers Natural Disaster Recovery Loan Program. The specific information made exempt from public records disclosure, except in an aggregated and anonymized format, includes:

- Personal tax returns;
- Credit history information;
- Credit reports; and
- Credit scores.

The bill provides a statement of public necessity as required by the State Constitution.

The public records exemption would stand repealed on October 2, 2029, unless it is reenacted by the Legislature under the Open Government Sunset Review Act.

If approved by the Governor, or allowed to become law without the Governor's signature, these provisions take effect upon becoming law.

Vote: Senate 40-0; House 115-0