

**SB164 ENGROSSED**



1 SB164  
2 NAL5JTT-2  
3 By Senators Price, Williams, Sessions, Jones  
4 RFD: Agriculture, Conservation, and Forestry  
5 First Read: 27-Feb-24



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A BILL  
TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

Relating to animals; to provide limitations of liability for certain actions of bovines to their owners.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

Section 1. (a) For the purposes of this section, the following terms have the following meanings, unless the context requires otherwise:

(1) BOVINE. Any buffalo, bison, cattle, or oxen.

(2) BOVINE ACTIVITY. Any activity involving one or more bovine, including, but not limited to, any of the following:

a. Grazing, herding, feeding, branding, milking, or other activity that involves the care or maintenance of a bovine.

b. A bovine auction or production sale.

c. A bovine show, fair, or competition.

d. Bovine training or teaching activities.

e. Boarding a bovine.

f. Riding, inspecting, or evaluating a bovine.

(3) BOVINE OWNER. Any person with ownership rights to a bovine.

(4) INHERENT RISK OF A BOVINE ACTIVITY. A danger or



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29 condition that is an integral part of a bovine activity,  
30 including, but not limited to, any of the following:

31 a. The propensity of a bovine to behave in ways that  
32 may result in injury, loss, damage, or death to a person on or  
33 around the bovine.

34 b. The unpredictability of a bovine's reaction to  
35 sounds, sudden movements, and unfamiliar objects, individuals,  
36 and other animals.

37 c. Certain hazards on a property, such as surface and  
38 subsurface conditions.

39 d. Collisions with other bovines or nonmotorized  
40 objects.

41 (5) PERSON. An individual, corporation, or any other  
42 legal entity.

43 (b) (1) A bovine owner shall not be liable for any  
44 injury, loss, damage, or death of a person resulting from an  
45 inherent risk of a bovine activity.

46 (2) Except as provided in subsection (c), no person  
47 shall make any claim against, maintain an action against, or  
48 recover from a bovine owner for injury, loss, damage, or death  
49 of a person resulting from an inherent risk of a bovine  
50 activity.

51 (c) (1) Subsection (b) shall not be construed to prevent  
52 or limit the liability of a bovine owner if the owner does any  
53 of the following:

54 a. Fails to post and maintain a warning sign pursuant  
55 to subsection (d).

56 b. Commits an act or omission that constitutes willful



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57 or wanton disregard for the safety of a person, and that act  
58 or omission causes the injury, loss, damage, or death of a  
59 person.

60 c. Has actual knowledge of the dangerous propensity of  
61 a particular bovine that is not open and obvious, does not  
62 make the danger known to a person, and the danger proximately  
63 causes injury, sickness, damage, or death to the person.

64 (2) Article 2 of Chapter 15 of Title 35, Code of  
65 Alabama 1975, shall not apply to a bovine owner if injury,  
66 loss, damage, or death of a person results from an inherent  
67 risk of a bovine activity.

68 (d) (1) This section shall not apply unless a bovine  
69 owner posts and maintains a sign that contains the warning  
70 notice specified in subdivision (2). The sign shall be placed  
71 in a clearly visible location on or near a stable, corral,  
72 fence, enclosure, or arena where the owner conducts bovine  
73 activities. The warning notice shall appear in black letters,  
74 with each letter being a minimum of one inch in height.

75 (2) The sign described in subdivision (1) shall contain  
76 the following warning notice:

### **"WARNING**

78 Under Alabama Law, a bovine owner is not liable for  
79 any injury, loss, damage, or death of a person  
80 resulting from the inherent risks of bovine activities,  
81 pursuant to this act."

82 Section 2. This act shall become effective on January  
83 1, 2025.



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84  
85  
86 Senate

87 Read for the first time and referred .....27-Feb-24  
88 to the Senate committee on  
89 Agriculture, Conservation, and  
90 Forestry

91  
92 Read for the second time and placed .....11-Apr-24  
93 on the calendar:  
94 0 amendments

95  
96 Read for the third time and passed .....16-Apr-24  
97 as amended  
98 Yeas 29  
99 Nays 0  
100 Abstains 0

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Patrick Harris,  
Secretary.