

## HOUSE BILL 559

**Promotes Animal Cruelty** by prohibiting counties and municipalities from banning animal events that are inherently cruel such as hog-dog contests, horse tripping, bloodless bullfights or any animal event regardless of the potential cruelty inflicted upon the animals.



**Endangers Public Safety** by prohibiting counties and municipalities from banning animal events that poses a risk to public safety. Municipalities would even be prohibited from outlawing a “running of the bulls” if a promoter chose to conduct such an event.

**Prohibits All Regulations on Working Animals** that are enacted to protect the health and welfare of the animals or enacted to protect public safety if the industry believes such regulations create an “undue financial hardship” on their business.

***This is critical since the carriage horse industry contends that all current regulations are a hardship and this has been their rationale for not complying with existing regulations in the City of St. Louis.***

Definition of working animal includes any animal performing a function in commerce, such as dogs used for the breeding of puppies and farm animals producing eggs, milk, and meat for sale in commerce.

**Eliminates regulations on dog breeding, farm animals, and exotic animals** because HB 559 does not allow any prohibition on a working animal and does not allow for any regulation that a dog breeder or a

farmer would consider an “undue financial hardship” on their business.

**Eliminates zoning ordinances on dog breeding, farm animals, and exotic animals** as all of these animals are considered “working animals” under HB 559.

**Eliminates county health ordinances on farm animals** that protect the public health, the environment, and the welfare of the animals.