

SENATE BILL 918

Prohibits 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.



- Prohibits all regulations on working animals that are enacted to protect the health and welfare of the animals if the industry believes such regulations interfere with their business.

This is critical since the carriage horse industry contends that all current regulations amount to a BAN and this is their rationale for not complying with existing regulations in the City of St. Louis.

Definition of “working animal” is so broad that it 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 zoning ordinances on dog breeding, farm animals, and exotic animals** because SB 918 does not allow any prohibition on a working animal and does not allow for any regulation that might interfere or “amount to a ban” on their business.

*Any animal that provides a “service” such as a companion animal is also defined as a working animal thus **nullifying any ordinances restricting the number of dogs or cats to prevent hoarding and nullifies ordinances restricting ownership of an exotic or dangerous animal.***

- Prohibits counties from enacting ordinances on farm animals used for the production of eggs, milk, or meat for commercial sale. **A factory farm would merely have to allege that such county or municipal ordinances amount to a ban on their business and they could establish operations in any county in the state.** Currently cruel factory farms cannot operate in 18 counties in Missouri because of local health ordinances. These would be nullified by SB 918.