

Senate Bill 21

By: Senator McKoon of the 29th

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

1 To amend Code Section 27-5-5 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to wild  
2 animals for which a license or permit is required, so as to exempt the African pygmy  
3 hedgehog from wild animal license and permit requirements if certain conditions are met;  
4 to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

6 style="text-align:center">**SECTION 1.**

7 Code Section 27-5-5 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to wild animals for  
8 which a license or permit is required, is amended by revising paragraph (1) of subsection (b)  
9 as follows:

10 "(1) Class Mammalia:

11 (A) Order Marsupialia — All species other than those listed in subparagraph (a)(1)(A)  
12 of this Code section; except that *Petaurus breviceps* (sugar glider) may be sold,  
13 purchased, exhibited, or held as a pet without a license or permit if the owner thereof  
14 possesses valid documentation that the animal originated from a source inspected and  
15 regulated by the United States Department of Agriculture;

16 (B) Order ~~Insectivora~~ Eulipotyphla (shrews, moles, hedgehogs, etc.) — All species,  
17 except that an African pygmy hedgehog (*Atelerix albiventris*) may be sold, purchased,  
18 exhibited, or held as a pet without a license or permit; provided, however, that such  
19 hedgehog owner shall provide valid documentation that the hedgehog was sexually  
20 neutered prior to two months of age and is vaccinated against rabies with a properly  
21 administered vaccine approved for use on hedgehogs;

22 (C) Order Dermoptera (flying lemurs) — All species;

23 (D) Order Chiroptera (bats) — All species;

24 (E) Order Primates (monkeys, apes, etc.) — All species except Family Hominidae;

25 (F) Order Edentata (sloths, armadillos, etc.) — All species;

26 (G) Order Pholidota (pangolins or scaly anteaters) — All species;

- 27 (H) Order Lagomorpha (rabbits, hares, etc.) — All species except Genus *Oryctolagus*;  
28 or any other normally domesticated species;
- 29 (I) Order Rodentia (rats, mice, etc.) — All species except Genus *Cavia*; Genus  
30 *Gerbillus*; Genus *Mesocricetus*; *Mus musculus*; *Rattus rattus*; *Rattus norvegicus*; or  
31 any other normally domesticated species;
- 32 (J) Order Cetacea (whales, dolphins, etc.) — All species;
- 33 (K) Order Carnivora (weasels, ferrets, cats, bears, wolves, etc.) — All species, except  
34 that a European ferret (*Mustela putorius furo*) may be sold, purchased, exhibited, or  
35 held as a pet without a license or permit; provided, however, that the ferret owner can  
36 provide valid documentation that the ferret was sexually neutered prior to seven months  
37 of age and is vaccinated against rabies with a properly administered vaccine approved  
38 for use on ferrets by the United States Department of Agriculture;
- 39 (L) Order Tubulidentata (aardvark) — All species;
- 40 (M) Order Proboscidea (elephants) — All species;
- 41 (N) Order Hyracoidea (conies) — All species;
- 42 (O) Order Sirenia (manatees, dugong) — All species;
- 43 (P) Order Perissodactyla (odd-toed ungulates) — All species;
- 44 (Q) Order Artiodactyla (even-toed ungulates) — All species except *Bison bison*  
45 (*buffalo*), *Bubalus bubalis* (*water buffalo*), and *Llama guanicoe*, *L. glama*, and *L. pacos*  
46 (*llamas*);"

47 **SECTION 2.**

48 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.