

HOUSE BILL 2712

By Turner M

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 44,
Chapter 7, relative to the branding of livestock.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 44-7-110, is amended by deleting such section in its entirety and substituting instead the following:

(a) Prior to selling or otherwise disposing of livestock, each stockyard, slaughterhouse, and packing house licensed to do business in this state shall obtain written permission to do so from the owner as determined by the brand on such livestock, and holder thereof, registered with the department pursuant to part 2 of this chapter.

(b) Every stockyard, slaughterhouse, and packing house licensed to do business in this state shall maintain on file a record of all brands on livestock handled or processed on their premises. The list shall be updated every sixty (60) days and inspection shall be made available to persons doing business with those establishments.

(c) In the event brands are unreadable, the stockyard, slaughterhouse, or packing house shall record the brand to the best of its ability with a statement declaring the condition of the brand.

(d) Failure to comply with this section is a Class A misdemeanor.

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 44-7-202, is amended by deleting subsection (a) in its entirety and substituting instead the following:

(a) Each owner shall use a brand to identify cattle, hogs, sheep, goats, horses, and other animals belonging to that owner and shall register the owner's brand by applying to the department for registration.

SECTION 3. The commissioner is authorized to promulgate rules and regulations to effectuate the purposes of this act. All such rules and regulations shall be promulgated in accordance with Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 4, Chapter 5.

SECTION 4. For the purpose of promulgating rules and regulations, this act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it. For all other purposes, this act shall take effect July 1, 2012, the public welfare requiring it.