

SENATE BILL No. 1006

May 16, 2018, Introduced by Senator SHIRKEY and referred to the Committee on Oversight.

A bill to amend 1981 PA 93, entitled
"Michigan right to farm act,"
by amending section 4 (MCL 286.474), as amended by 1999 PA 261.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

1 Sec. 4. (1) Subject to subsection (2), the director shall
2 investigate all complaints involving a farm or farm operation,
3 including, but not limited to, complaints involving the use of
4 manure and other nutrients, agricultural waste products, dust,
5 noise, odor, fumes, air pollution, surface water or groundwater
6 pollution, food and agricultural processing by-products, care of
7 farm animals, and pest infestations. Within 7 business days of
8 receipt of the complaint, the director shall conduct an on-site
9 inspection of the farm or farm operation. The director shall
10 notify, in writing, the city, village, or township and the county

1 in which the farm or farm operation is located of the complaint.

2 (2) The commission and the director shall enter into a
3 memorandum of understanding with the director of the department of
4 environmental quality. The investigation and resolution of
5 environmental complaints concerning farms or farm operations ~~shall~~
6 **MUST** be conducted in accordance with the memorandum of
7 understanding. However, the director shall notify the department of
8 environmental quality of any potential violation of the natural
9 resources and environmental protection act, 1994 PA 451, MCL
10 324.101 to 324.90106, or a rule promulgated under that act.
11 Activities at a farm or farm operation are subject to applicable
12 provisions of the natural resources and environmental protection
13 act, 1994 PA 451, MCL 324.101 to 324.90106, and the rules
14 promulgated under that act. The commission and the director shall
15 develop procedures for the investigation and resolution for other
16 farm-related complaints.

17 (3) If the director finds upon investigation under subsection
18 (1) that the person responsible for a farm or farm operation is
19 using generally accepted agricultural and management practices, the
20 director shall notify, in writing, that person, the complainant,
21 and the city, village, or township and the county in which the farm
22 or farm operation is located of this finding. If the director
23 identifies that the source or potential sources of the problem were
24 caused by the use of other than generally accepted agricultural and
25 management practices, the director shall advise the person
26 responsible for the farm or farm operation that necessary changes
27 should be made to resolve or abate the problem and to conform with

generally accepted agricultural and management practices and that if those changes cannot be implemented within 30 days, the person responsible for the farm or farm operation shall submit to the director an implementation plan including a schedule for completion of the necessary changes. When the director conducts a follow-up on-site inspection to verify whether those changes have been implemented, the director shall notify, in writing, the city, village, or township and the county in which the farm or farm operation is located of the time and date of the follow-up on-site inspection and shall allow a representative of the city, village, or township and the county to be present during the follow-up on-site inspection. If the changes have been implemented, the director shall notify, in writing, the person responsible for the farm or farm operation, the complainant, and the city, village, or township and the county in which the farm or farm operation is located of this determination. If the changes have not been implemented, the director shall notify, in writing, the complainant and the city, village, or township and the county in which the farm or farm operation is located that the changes have not been implemented and whether a plan for implementation has been submitted. Upon request, the director shall provide a copy of the implementation plan to the city, village, or township and the county in which the farm or farm operation is located.

(4) A complainant who brings more than 3 unverified complaints against the same farm or farm operation within 3 years may be ordered, by the director, to pay to the department the full costs of investigation of any fourth or subsequent unverified complaint

1 against the same farm or farm operation. As used in this
2 subsection, "unverified complaint" means a complaint in response to
3 which the director determines that the farm or farm operation is
4 using generally accepted agricultural and management practices.

5 (5) Except as provided in subsection (6), this act does not
6 affect the application of state statutes and federal statutes.

7 (6) Beginning June 1, 2000, except as otherwise provided in
8 this section, it is the express legislative intent that this act
9 preempt any local ordinance, regulation, or resolution that
10 purports to extend or revise in any manner the provisions of this
11 act or generally accepted agricultural and management practices
12 developed under this act. Except as otherwise provided in this
13 section, a local unit of government shall not enact, maintain, or
14 enforce an ordinance, regulation, or resolution that conflicts in
15 any manner with this act or generally accepted agricultural and
16 management practices developed under this act.

17 (7) A local unit of government may submit to the director a
18 proposed ordinance prescribing standards different from those
19 contained in generally accepted agricultural and management
20 practices if adverse effects on the environment or public health
21 will exist within the local unit of government. A proposed
22 ordinance under this subsection ~~shall~~ **MUST** not conflict with
23 existing state laws or federal laws. At least 45 days prior to
24 enactment of the proposed ordinance, the local unit of government
25 shall submit a copy of the proposed ordinance to the director. Upon
26 receipt of the proposed ordinance, the director shall hold a public
27 meeting in that local unit of government to review the proposed

1 ordinance. In conducting its review, the director shall consult
2 with the departments of environmental quality and ~~community health~~
3 **HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES** and shall consider any recommendations of
4 the county health department of the county where the adverse
5 effects on the environment or public health will allegedly exist.
6 Within 30 days after the public meeting, the director shall make a
7 recommendation to the commission on whether the ordinance should be
8 approved. An ordinance enacted under this subsection ~~shall~~**MUST** not
9 be enforced by a local unit of government until approved by the
10 commission. ~~of agriculture.~~

11 (8) By May 1, 2000, the commission shall issue proposed
12 generally accepted agricultural and management practices for site
13 selection and odor controls at new and expanding animal livestock
14 facilities. The commission shall adopt such generally accepted
15 agricultural and management practices by June 1, 2000. In
16 developing these generally accepted agricultural and management
17 practices, the commission shall do both of the following:

18 (a) Establish an advisory committee to provide recommendations
19 to the commission. The advisory committee ~~shall~~**MUST** include the
20 entities listed in section 2(d), 2 individuals representing
21 townships, 1 individual representing counties, and 2 individuals
22 representing agricultural industry organizations.

23 (b) For the generally accepted agricultural and management
24 practices for site selection, consider groundwater protection, soil
25 permeability, and other factors determined necessary or appropriate
26 by the commission.

27 (9) If generally accepted agricultural and management

practices require the person responsible for the operation of a farm or farm operation to prepare a manure management plan, the person responsible for the operation of the farm or farm operation shall provide a copy of that manure management plan to the city, village, or township or the county in which the farm or farm operation is located, upon request. A manure management plan provided under this subsection is exempt from disclosure under the freedom of information act, 1976 PA 442, MCL 15.231 to 15.246.

(10) The department shall do all ~~BOTH~~ of the following:

~~(a) Annually submit to the standing committees of the senate and house of representatives with jurisdiction over issues pertaining to agriculture and local government a report on the implementation of this act.~~

(A) ~~(b)~~ Make available on the department's website current generally accepted agricultural and management practices.

(B) ~~(c)~~ Establish a toll-free telephone number for receipt of information on noncompliance with generally accepted agricultural and management practices.

(11) As used in this section:

(a) "Adverse effects on the environment or public health" means any unreasonable risk to human beings or the environment, based on scientific evidence and taking into account the economic, social, and environmental costs and benefits and specific populations whose health may be adversely affected.

(b) "Commission" means the commission of agriculture **AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT**.

(c) "Department" means the department of agriculture **AND RURAL**

1 **DEVELOPMENT.**

2 (d) "Director" means the director of the department or his or
3 her designee.

4 Enacting section 1. This amendatory act takes effect 90 days
5 after the date it is enacted into law.