

HOUSE BILL No. HB 2278

By Committee on Agriculture

2-11

AN ACT concerning agriculture; relating to livestock; prescribing certain unlawful acts and providing penalties therefor.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas:

Section 1. (a) In order to preserve free and private enterprise, prevent monopoly and protect consumers, a processor of pork or limited partnership in which a processor holds partnership shares as a general partner or partnership shares as a limited partner shall not: (1) Contract for the production of hogs of which the processor is the owner; or (2) own hogs, except that such processor may own hogs for 30 days before such hogs are manufactured, processed or prepared for sale as pork products.

(b) Hogs owned by a processor in violation of this section on the effective date of this act shall be sold, slaughtered or otherwise disposed of on or before June 30, 2008.

(c) Violation of the provisions of this section shall subject the violator to a fine of not more than \$50,000. The district courts of this state may prevent and restrain violations of this section through the issuance of an injunction or other equitable and legal relief which the court may find appropriate. The attorney general or district or county attorney shall institute suits on behalf of the state to enforce the provisions of this act.

(d) The provisions of this section shall be part of and supplemental to the provisions of K.S.A. 17-5901 *et seq.*, and amendments thereto.

Sec. 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its publication in the statute book.