



2023 ASSEMBLY BILL 685

November 27, 2023 - Introduced by Representatives SORTWELL, BODDEN, BEHNKE, GUSTAFSON, S. JOHNSON, MAGNAFICI, MOSES, PENTERMAN, ROZAR, SCHMIDT and TITTL, cosponsored by Senators TAYLOR and CABRAL-GUEVARA. Referred to Committee on Sporting Heritage.

AN ACT *to create* 66.0442 of the statutes; **relating to:** local regulation of fowl.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

This bill prohibits political subdivisions and sewerage districts from prohibiting the keeping of up to four chickens, ducks, geese, quail, or guinea fowl (fowl) by property owners or certain lessors on properties zoned for residential use. The bill specifically allows political subdivisions and sewerage districts to do any of the following with regard to the keeping of fowl:

1. Require a keeper of fowl to obtain a permit.
 2. Require notification of adjoining land owners.
 3. Impose reasonable regulations related to the location of fowl housing on a property.
 4. Prohibit the keeping of roosters.
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The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. 66.0442 of the statutes is created to read:

66.0442 Local regulation of fowl. (1) In this section:

- (a) “Fowl” means chickens, ducks, geese, quail, or guinea fowl.

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(b) “Local governmental unit” means a city, village, town, county, or sewerage district.

(2) No local governmental unit may prohibit the keeping of 4 or fewer fowl by any of the following on a property zoned for residential use:

(a) The owner of the property.

(b) A lessor of the property if the property is owner-occupied.

(3) Notwithstanding sub. (2), a local governmental unit may do any of the following with regard to the keeping of fowl:

(a) Require a keeper of fowl to obtain a permit.

(b) Require notification of owners of properties adjoining the property on which fowl are to be kept.

(c) Impose reasonable regulations related to the location of fowl housing on a property.

(d) Prohibit the keeping of roosters.

(END)