

REFERENCE TITLE: petting zoos; handwashing; supervision

State of Arizona
Senate
Fifty-seventh Legislature
Second Regular Session
2026

SB 1082

Introduced by
Senator Kavanagh

AN ACT

AMENDING TITLE 36, CHAPTER 6, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES, BY ADDING ARTICLE 16; RELATING TO PUBLIC HEALTH CONTROL.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

1 Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Arizona:

2 Section 1. Title 36, chapter 6, Arizona Revised Statutes, is
3 amended by adding article 16, to read:

4 ARTICLE 16. PETTING ZOOS AND ANIMAL ENCOUNTER EXHIBITS

5 36-799. Petting zoos; animal encounter exhibits; handwashing
6 required; enclosures; signage; supervision;
7 rulemaking authority; civil penalties

8 A. EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION F OF THIS SECTION, THIS SECTION
9 APPLIES TO ALL PETTING ZOOS, ANIMAL ENCOUNTER EXHIBITS AND SIMILAR
10 OPERATIONS, WHETHER PERMANENT OR TEMPORARY, AT WHICH MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC
11 ARE ALLOWED TO TOUCH OR FEED LIVE ANIMALS.

12 B. OPERATORS OF PETTING ZOOS, ANIMAL ENCOUNTER EXHIBITS AND SIMILAR
13 OPERATIONS SHALL ENSURE THAT ALL PERSONS WASH THEIR HANDS WITH SOAP AND
14 WATER OR USE A HAND SANITIZER IMMEDIATELY ON LEAVING THE AREA WHERE THE
15 ANIMALS ARE ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC.

16 C. EACH PETTING ZOO, ANIMAL ENCOUNTER EXHIBIT AND SIMILAR OPERATION
17 SHALL PROMINENTLY DISPLAY AT ALL ENTRANCES AND EXITS A SIGN CONTAINING THE
18 FOLLOWING STATEMENT IN CLEAR, LEGIBLE LETTERING THAT ARE AT LEAST ONE INCH
19 IN HEIGHT:

20 FOR THE SAFETY OF ALL PERSONS, PARTICIPANTS MUST WASH
21 THEIR HANDS ON EXITING. PERSONS MAY NOT EAT OR DRINK WITHIN
22 THE ANIMAL CONTACT AREA AND SHOULD NOT PLACE THEIR FINGERS OR
23 ANY OTHER OBJECT IN THEIR MOUTHS.

24 D. EACH PETTING ZOO, ANIMAL ENCOUNTER EXHIBIT AND SIMILAR OPERATION
25 SHALL MAINTAIN THE ANIMALS IN AN ENCLOSED OR OTHERWISE RESTRICTED AREA SO
26 THAT PERSONS WHO HAVE NOT ENTERED THROUGH A DESIGNATED ENTRANCE CANNOT
27 PET, FEED OR OTHERWISE PHYSICALLY CONTACT THE ANIMALS.

28 E. EACH PETTING ZOO, ANIMAL ENCOUNTER EXHIBIT AND SIMILAR OPERATION
29 SHALL ENSURE THAT:

30 1. AT LEAST ONE RESPONSIBLE ADULT SUPERVISOR IS PRESENT IN THE
31 ANIMAL CONTACT AREA AT ALL TIMES DURING OPERATION.

32 2. EACH SUPERVISOR ACTIVELY MONITORS COMPLIANCE WITH THE
33 HANDWASHING REQUIREMENT OF SUBSECTION B OF THIS SECTION AND ENSURES THAT
34 ALL EXITING PARTICIPANTS COMPLY IMMEDIATELY ON LEAVING THE AREA WHERE THE
35 ANIMALS ARE ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC.

36 F. THE HANDWASHING REQUIREMENT PRESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION B OF THIS
37 SECTION DOES NOT APPLY TO PETTING ZOOS, ANIMAL ENCOUNTER EXHIBITS AND
38 SIMILAR OPERATIONS THAT ARE CONTRACTED FOR A SINGLE DAY AT A PRIVATE
39 RESIDENCE FOR A PRIVATE EVENT OR PARTY. THE OPERATOR SHALL POST THE SIGN
40 PRESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION C OF THIS SECTION AT A VISIBLE LOCATION AT THE
41 EVENT SITE, INFORM THOSE RUNNING THE EVENT THAT IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT
42 GUESTS WASH OR SANITIZE THEIR HANDS AND PROVIDE A HANDWASHING OR
43 SANITIZING STATION NEARBY.

44 G. THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES MAY ADOPT RULES TO IMPLEMENT
45 AND ENFORCE THIS SECTION, INCLUDING INSPECTION AUTHORITY AND THE
46 IMPOSITION OF A CIVIL PENALTY NOT TO EXCEED \$100 PER VIOLATION.