

TEXT OF THE FINAL
BILL APPROVED

Reasons for the Alternative Proposal

A. The following eight bills were each submitted to the Agriculture, Food, Rural Affairs, Oceans and Fisheries Committee, and then submitted to the Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs Bill Review Subcommittee after a proposal explanation, review report, and alternative discussion.

Title: Special bill to end dog meat consumption

Bill number: 22926

Author: Rep. Han Jeong-ae

Date of proposal: 2023.06.28.

Date of submission to general meeting: 2023.09.15.

Title: Special bill to ban dog meat and support business closures

Bill number: 23838

Author: Rep. Lee Heon-seung

Date of proposal: 2023.08.16.

Date of submission to general meeting: So-called direct meeting (2023.11.20.)

Title: Special bill to end dog meat consumption

Bill number: 24143

Author: Representative Yoon Mi-hyang

Date of proposal: 2023.09.01.

Date of submission to general meeting: So-called direct meeting (2023.11.20.)

Title: Special bill to ban dog meat

Bill number: 24280

Author: Rep. Ahn Byeong-gil

Proposal date: 2023.09.07.

Date of submission to general meeting: So-called direct meeting (2023.11.20.)

Subject: Special bill to ban dog eating

Bill number: 25131

Author: Representative Park Seong-min

Date of proposal: 2023.10.18.

Date of submission to general meeting: So-called direct meeting (2023.11.20.)

Title: Partial amendment to the Animal Protection Act

Bill number: 07035

Author: Rep. Han Jeong-ae

Proposal date: 2020.12.30.

Date of submission to general meeting: 2021.02.16.

Title: Partial amendment to the Animal Protection Act

Bill number: 21374

Author: Representative Tae Young-ho

Proposed date: 2023.04.14.

Date of submission to general meeting: 2023.06.27.

Title: Partial amendment to the Animal Protection Act

Bill number: 23839

Author: Rep. Lee Heon-seung

Date of proposal: 2023.08.16.

Date of submission to general meeting: So-called direct meeting (2023.11.20.)

B. As a result of the review of the above eight bills by the 1st Agriculture, Food, Rural Affairs, Oceans, and Fisheries Subcommittee of the 411th National Assembly (extraordinary session) (December 12, 23), we integrated and adjusted them to prepare the alternative bill for our committee.

C. The 2nd Agriculture, Food, Rural Affairs, Oceans and Fisheries Committee of the 411th National Assembly (extraordinary session) (December 20, 2023) decided not to submit each of the eight bills to the plenary session as reviewed and reported by the Agriculture, Food, Rural Affairs, Oceans, and Fisheries Bill Review Subcommittee. It was decided to propose the alternative bill prepared by the Agriculture, Food, Rural Affairs, Oceans, and Fisheries Bill Review Subcommittee as a committee bill.

※ 411th National Assembly (Extraordinary Session) 2nd Agriculture, Food, Rural Affairs, Oceans, and Fisheries Committee (`23.12.20.) Resolution to omit cost estimate.

Reasons for suggesting an alternative

Globally, the perception of dogs as companion animals is growing, and even in countries where breeding and consuming dogs for food purposes have been a long-standing practice, such as Taiwan, Hong Kong, and the Philippines, institutional efforts are being made such as enacting related laws banning the consumption of dogs.

In addition, in Korea, the number of registered pets and the number of households with pets has recently increased significantly, and awareness of

animal welfare has significantly improved, with social voices continuously expressing the need to ban the consumption of dogs.

However, even today, some dietary culture of eating dog meat still remains, and related problems such as animal abuse controversies continue to arise due to the poor breeding environment and inhumane slaughter methods of dogs.

Accordingly, the bill explicitly prohibits slaughtering and processing dogs to use or sell them as food. It contains matters regarding the closure of dog breeding farms to end the use of dogs as food based on a fact-finding survey, including the distribution status of dog breeding farms. By preparing a basic plan to support all owners of closed dog breeding farms, we will end the breeding of dogs for consumption and the culture of dog meat consumption and protect the lives of animals by encouraging the reporting of closure of related businesses and conversion to other businesses. The goal is to resolve social conflicts related to dog meat consumption.

The main contents of the alternative bill

A. This law aims to contribute to realizing the values of animal protection that strive for respect for life and harmonious coexistence of people and animals by stipulating the matters necessary to end the consumption of dogs (Article 1 of the proposal).

B. The breeding, propagation, and slaughter of dogs for eating is prohibited, and the distribution and sale of dogs or food cooked and processed using dogs as raw materials is also prohibited (Article 5 of the proposal).

C. To end the consumption of dogs, the Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs is to establish a basic plan to end the consumption of dog meat, which includes matters related to support for the closure or change of business of dog meat farm owners, dog meat-related slaughter and distributors, and dog meat-related food service providers. (Article 6 of the proposal).

D. Dog breeding farm owners, dog meat slaughterers, distributors, or dog meat food service providers are required to report the name, address, size, and business facts of the facility to the head of the local government within

three months from the date of promulgation of this Act (Article 10 of the proposal).

E. The state or local government shall provide necessary support for business closure to ensure fair compensation to those who report under Article 10, Paragraph 1, and submit an implementation plan (Article 11 of the proposal).

F. The state or local government shall provide support such as facilities and operating funds necessary for full-time employment so that fair compensation can be provided to those who report according to Article 10, Paragraph 1, and submit an implementation plan (Article 12 of the proposal).

Special Bill to end the breeding, slaughter, and distribution of dogs for consumption and dog meat consumption

Article 1 (Purpose)

The purpose of this Act is to contribute to the realization of the value of animal welfare, which aims for respect for life and harmonious coexistence of people and animals, by stipulating the matters necessary to end the consumption of dogs.

Article 2 (Definition)

The meanings of terms used in this Act are as follows.

1. “Dog breeding farm” refers to a farm that breeds dogs for use as food.
2. “Farm owner” refers to a person who runs a dog breeding farm.
3. “Dog meat slaughter/distributor” refers to a person who slaughters/processes dogs for use as food or distributes/sells dogs or food made using dogs as raw materials for eating.
4. “Dog food service business operator” refers to a person who runs a general restaurant business under Article 21 of the Enforcement Decree of the Food Sanitation Act that cooks, processes, and sells food using dogs as raw materials.

Article 3 (Responsibilities of the State, etc.)

- ① The state and local governments shall establish policies necessary to end the consumption of dogs and provide the necessary administrative and financial support.

② Farm owners, dog meat slaughterers and distributors, dog meat food service providers, private organizations and related experts under Article 4 (3) of the Animal Protection Act actively shall cooperate with the national and local governments' policies to end the consumption of dogs.

Article 4 (Relationship with other laws)

This Act takes precedence over other laws regarding the end of dog consumption.

Article 5 (Prohibition on breeding, slaughtering, distributing, and selling dogs for the purpose of eating)

- ① No one shall breed, increase the number of, or slaughter dogs for the purpose of eating.
- ② No one shall distribute or sell dogs (including carcasses or meat) or food cooked or processed using dogs for the purpose of consumption.

Article 6 (Basic plan to end dog meat consumption, etc.)

① To end the consumption of dogs as meat, the Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs shall establish a basic plan to end dog meat consumption (hereinafter referred to as the "Basic Plan"), which includes the following matters.

1. Matters related to establishing and coordinating major policies to end the consumption of dogs
2. Matters concerning business closure or change of business, etc., of farm owners, dog meat slaughterers and distributors, and dog meat food service providers.

3. Matters pertaining to the protection and management of dogs for which the farm owner has given up ownership

4. Other matters necessary to end dog consumption

② When establishing a basic plan, the Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs must consult with the heads of relevant central administrative agencies, and special mayors, metropolitan mayors, special self-governing mayors, provincial governors or special self-governing provincial governors (hereinafter referred to as “mayors/provincial governors”) and dog breeding farms. After hearing the opinions of related organizations, etc., it must be reviewed by the Committee for Ending Dog Meat Consumption pursuant to Article 8.

③ Other matters necessary for the establishment and implementation of the basic plan shall be determined by Presidential Decree.

Article 7 (Status Survey)

① The Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs may conduct a fact-finding survey (hereinafter referred to as “fact-finding survey”) on the following matters to efficiently establish and implement the basic plan.

1. Dog breeding farm operation status

2. Operation status of dog meat slaughter and distribution merchants

3. Operation status of dog meat food service business

4. Other matters that the Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs deems necessary for a fact-finding survey to establish and implement the basic plan.

② If necessary for a fact-finding survey, the Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs may request the heads of relevant central administrative agencies, local governments, and animal-related organizations to submit necessary data. In this case, the person asked to submit data must comply unless there are special reasons.

Article 8 (Formation and operation of the Committee for Ending Dog Meat Consumption)

- ① The Committee for Ending Dog Meat Consumption (hereinafter referred to as the “Committee”) shall be established under the Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs to deliberate on matters necessary for ending the dog meat consumption.
- ② The committee deliberates on the following matters.
 1. Matters related to the basic plan
 2. Matters related to establishing and coordinating major policies to end the consumption of dogs
 3. Other matters prescribed by the Presidential Decree regarding the end of dog consumption.
- ③ The committee shall consist of not more than 25 members, including one chairperson.
- ④ The chairperson of the committee shall be the Vice Minister of the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs, and the members shall include general government officials belonging to high-ranking administrative agencies designated by presidential decree, representatives of dog farming organizations, individuals recommended by private organizations pursuant to Article 4, Paragraph 3 of the Animal Protection Act, and individuals appointed or commissioned by the Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs among experts with abundant knowledge and experience in animal-related matters.
- ⑤ Other matters necessary for the composition and operation of the committee shall be determined by Presidential Decree.

Article 9 (Prohibition of new operation of dog breeding farms, etc.)

No one shall establish or operate a new or additional facility that falls under any of the following items.

1. Dog breeding farm
2. Facilities for slaughtering and processing dogs for use as food, or for distributing and selling dogs or food made using dogs as raw materials for the purpose of eating.
3. Facilities for cooking, processing, and selling food using dogs as raw materials

Article 10 (Submission of report and implementation plan, etc.)

① Farm owners, dog slaughter and distributors, and dog meat food service providers must report facility names, addresses, scale, and business details to the Special Self-Governing City Mayors, Special Self-Governing Province governors, or the mayors, county mayors, or district office heads (referring to the head of a district office in a self-governing district; hereinafter referred to as the “mayors, county mayors, or district office heads”) within three months from the promulgation date of this law.

② The head of a city/county or district may review the contents of the report under paragraph (1) and refuse to accept the report if it is found to be inappropriate. In this case, the fact and reason for refusal to accept must be notified to the person concerned without delay.

③ A person who makes a report pursuant to paragraph 1 shall submit an implementation plan for shutting down dog meat farming (hereinafter referred to as “implementation plan”), which includes matters related to business closure or change of business, to the head of a city, county or district within six months from the date of promulgation of this Act and faithfully implement the plan. In this case, the implementation plan may be submitted together with the report under paragraph 1 or separately.

- ④ If the head of a city/county or district deems that the implementation plan submitted pursuant to paragraph 3 requires supplementation, they may request supplementation by setting a deadline.
- ⑤ A person who makes a report pursuant to paragraph (1) shall prepare and store the management status of each dog in his or her possession.
- ⑥ The head of a city/county/district must regularly inspect farm owners, dog meat slaughter/distributors, and dog meat food service providers at least once a half-year to see whether they comply with the implementation plan pursuant to paragraph 3 and may inspect at any time if necessary.
- ⑦ In addition, the Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs shall determine and announce specific matters regarding the procedures and documents required for reporting and submitting an implementation plan pursuant to paragraphs 1 to 6 and preparing and storing the management status of each dog.

Article 11 (Support for business closure, etc.)

- ① The state or local government must provide the necessary support for business closure, etc., to ensure fair compensation to those who have reported and submitted an implementation plan in accordance with Article 10 (1) and (3).
- ② Necessary matters regarding the content, targets, standards, procedures, etc. of support under paragraph (1) shall be determined by Presidential Decree.

Article 12 (Support for change of job)

- ① The state or local government shall provide facilities and operating funds necessary for the change of job so that fair compensation can

be provided to those who have reported and submitted an implementation plan in accordance with Article 10 (1) and (3).

② Necessary matters regarding the content, targets, standards, procedures, etc., of support under paragraph (1) shall be determined by Presidential Decree.

Article 13 (Access, investigation, etc.)

① The Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs, the mayors, provincial governors, county mayors, or district office heads may, to carry out the following tasks, require farm owners, dog slaughter and distributors, or dog food service providers to submit necessary information and may instruct their affiliated officials to enter such facilities or inspect their operational status or examine relevant documents.

1. Fact-finding survey

2. Acceptance of report pursuant to Article 10 Paragraph 1 and implementation plan pursuant to Paragraph 3 of the same Article

3. Check compliance with the implementation plan pursuant to Article 10 (6)

4. Other matters necessary for the enforcement of this Act

② Public officials who conduct access and inspection pursuant to paragraph (1) shall carry a certificate indicating their authority and show it to the relevant persons.

Article 14 (Implementation action orders, etc.)

① The mayor, county mayor, or district office head may specify a period and instruct necessary measures to be taken for those farm owners, dog slaughter and distributors, or dog food service providers who fail to comply with any of the following items.

1. Prohibition on new operation of dog breeding farms, etc. pursuant to Article 9
2. Reporting pursuant to Article 10, submission and implementation of an implementation plan, or preparation and storage of management status for dogs.
 - ② The head of a city/county or district may order the closure of the relevant business place for any person who falls under any of the following items.
 1. A person who violates the order under paragraph (1)
 2. A person who breeds or slaughters dogs for eating in violation of Article 5 (1).
 3. A person who distributes or sells dogs or food cooked or processed using dogs as raw materials for consumption, in violation of Article 5 (2).
 - ③ When a person who has received a closure order under paragraph (2) fails to comply with it, the head of a city/county or district may have the relevant public officials take the following measures:
 1. Removal or deletion of signboards or other business signs at the relevant business site
 2. Attachment of notices, etc., indicating that the relevant business is not legal.
 3. A seal that prevents the use of facilities or equipment essential for operating a business.
 - ④ If the head of a city/county or district wishes to issue an order under paragraph (1) or (2), a hearing must be held.
 - ⑤ When the head of a city, county, or district issues an order under paragraph 2 or takes measures under paragraph 3 regarding a dog breeding farm, they shall take necessary measures for proper breeding, management, or protection, such as having the farm owner transfer the animals he or she owns.

⑥ Matters necessary for the contents, procedures, standards, etc. of orders and measures under paragraphs 1 through 5 shall be determined by Presidential Decree.

Article 15 (Delegation and Entrustment of Authority)

① Part of the authority of the Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs under this Act may be delegated to the heads of affiliated organizations, city/provincial governors, or mayors/county/district heads, as prescribed by Presidential Decree.

② Part of the work of the Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs under this Act may be entrusted to an institution, organization, or corporation that performs work related to animal protection, as prescribed by Presidential Decree.

Article 16 (Deemed public officials in application of penalty provisions)

Executives and employees of institutions, organizations, or corporations that perform duties entrusted pursuant to Article 15 (2) are considered public officials when applying Articles 129 to 132 of the Criminal Act.

Article 17 (Penalty Provisions)

① Any person who slaughters a dog for the purpose of eating in violation of Article 5 (1) shall be punished by imprisonment for up to 3 years or by a fine not exceeding 30 million won.

② Any person who falls under any of the following items shall be punished by imprisonment for not more than two years or by a fine not exceeding 20 million won.

1. A person who breeds or increases the number of dogs for eating in violation of Article 5 (1)
2. A person who distributes or sells dogs or food cooked or processed using dogs as raw materials for consumption, in violation of Article 5 (2).

Article 18 (Fines)

① A fine of up to 3 million won will be imposed on any person who falls under the following items.

1. A person who installs and operates new or additional facilities in violation of Article 9
2. A person who fails to report in violation of Article 10 (1)
3. A person who fails to submit an implementation plan in violation of Article 10 (3).
4. A person who fails to prepare and store the management status of dogs in violation of Article 10 (5).

② A fine of not more than 1 million won will be imposed on any person who falls under any of the following items.

1. A person who fails to respond to a request for submission of data pursuant to Article 13 (1) without justifiable reason or submits false data.
2. A person who refuses, obstructs, or evades access and investigation under Article 13 (1) without justifiable grounds.

③ The fines under paragraphs 1 and 2 shall be imposed and collected by the Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs, a city/provincial governor, or the head of a city/county/district, as prescribed by the Presidential Decree.

Supplementary provisions

This Act shall enter into force six months after its promulgation. However, Articles 1, 2, 7, 9, 10, 13, 14, and 18 shall enter into force from the date of promulgation, and Articles 5 and 17 shall enter into force three years after their promulgation.