

## HB550 INTRODUCED



1 HB550  
2 V7C3UVV-1  
3 By Representatives Travis, Daniels, Clarke, Lands, Jones,  
4 Forte, Hall, Warren, Datcher, Bracy, Hollis, Tillman, Moore  
5 (M), McClammy, Hendrix, Morris, England, Sellers, McCampbell,  
6 Hassell, Givan, Drummond, Jackson, Lawrence, Gray, Ensler,  
7 Rafferty, Chestnut, Boyd  
8 RFD: State Government  
9 First Read: 03-Mar-26



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SYNOPSIS:

This bill would require the Department of Agriculture and Industries to establish the Poultry Export Recovery Grant Program to provide various forms of support to poultry producers, processors, and exporters.

This bill would require the department to assist poultry exporters with identifying and entering new international markets.

This bill would establish a capital investment fund for cold storage facilities, refrigerated transport vehicles, and export-focused logistics hubs.

This bill would require the state to increase in-state demand for poultry products through certain methods.

This bill would also establish the Poultry Trade Risk Monitoring Task Force to assess poultry policy and the industry and report thereon.

A BILL  
TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

Relating to poultry; to require the Department of



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29 Agriculture and Industries to establish the Poultry Export  
30 Recovery Grant Program for poultry industry support; to  
31 require the department to assist exporters in identifying and  
32 entering new international markets; to establish a capital  
33 investment fund for cold storage infrastructure and logistics  
34 hubs; to require the state to take certain actions to increase  
35 in-state poultry demand; and to establish the Poultry Trade  
36 Risk Monitoring Task Force to assess and report on poultry  
37 policy and industry.

38 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

39 Section 1. This act shall be known and may be cited as  
40 the Poultry Export Stabilization and Market Access Act.

41 Section 2. For purposes of this act, the following  
42 terms have the following meanings:

43 (1) DEPARTMENT. The Department of Agriculture and  
44 Industries.

45 (2) ELIGIBLE ENTITY. A poultry producer, processor, or  
46 exporter operating within the state.

47 (3) TRADE DISRUPTION. The loss of market access,  
48 increased export costs, or reduced competitiveness caused by  
49 foreign tariffs, sanitary regulations, or geopolitical  
50 restrictions.

51 Section 3. (a) Subject to the Legislature appropriating  
52 funds for this purpose, the department shall establish a  
53 Poultry Export Recovery Grant Program to provide direct  
54 financial assistance to eligible entities.

55 (b) Grants shall support operational continuity,  
56 product redirection, employee retention, and loss and trade



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57 disruption mitigation.

58 (c) The department shall prioritize applicants  
59 demonstrating recent trade losses directly linked to foreign  
60 tariffs or embargoes.

61 Section 4. (a) The department shall assist poultry  
62 exporters in identifying and entering new international  
63 markets.

64 (b) Support may include:

- 65 (1) Participation in state-led trade missions;  
66 (2) Developing foreign marketing materials; and  
67 (3) Assisting with international health and safety  
68 certification.

69 (c) Priority shall be given to small and mid-sized  
70 exporters.

71 Section 5. (a) Subject to the Legislature appropriating  
72 funds for this purpose, a capital investment fund is  
73 established for:

- 74 (1) Cold storage facilities;  
75 (2) Refrigerated transport vehicles; and  
76 (3) Export-focused logistics hubs.

77 (b) Grants or low-interest loans may be awarded to  
78 eligible entities or local governments engaged in poultry  
79 export infrastructure projects.

80 Section 6. (a) The state shall expand in-state demand  
81 for poultry products through:

- 82 (1) Preferential purchasing in public institutions and  
83 school meal programs;  
84 (2) In-state marketing and public awareness campaigns;



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85 and

86 (3) Price stabilization contracts during periods of  
87 international market downturn.

88 (b) On request, a state agency shall provide assistance  
89 to the department in implementing this section.

90 Section 7. (a) The Poultry Trade Risk Monitoring Task  
91 Force is established to do all of the following:

92 (1) Track developments in global poultry trade policy;

93 (2) Assess vulnerabilities and economic risks to the  
94 poultry sector; and

95 (3) Advise the executive and legislative branches on  
96 adaptive policy measures.

97 (b) The task force shall consist of nine individuals  
98 that represent the poultry associations, poultry exporters,  
99 academic experts, and all relevant state agencies. The  
100 Governor, Speaker of the House of Representatives, and the  
101 President Pro Tempore of the Senate shall each appoint 3  
102 members of the task force.

103 (c) The chair of the task force, as designated by the  
104 Governor from among his or her appointees, shall call the  
105 first meeting of the task force which shall be not later than  
106 January 1, 2027.

107 (d) The task force shall annually submit a report of  
108 its findings, conclusions, and recommendations for any  
109 proposed legislation to the Governor, Speaker of the House of  
110 Representatives, and the President Pro Tempore of the Senate  
111 not later than the first legislative day of each regular  
112 legislative session.



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113           (e) (1) The legislative members of the task force, if  
114 any, shall be entitled to their legislative compensation, per  
115 diem, and travel expenses for each day they attend a meeting  
116 of the task force pursuant to Section 49 of the Constitution  
117 of Alabama of 2022.

118           (2) The nonlegislative members of the task force shall  
119 serve without compensation but may be reimbursed for necessary  
120 expenses in attending meetings of the task force pursuant to  
121 the policies of their appointing authority.

122           Section 8. This act shall become effective on July 1,  
123 2027.