



Defining "Meat": Enacted Laws Regulating Labeling

State	Act #	Passage Date	Effective Date	Products Covered in Act	Penalty	Citation	Court Actions	Court Action Basis	Current Status of Legal Action
Alabama	HB 518/ Act No. 2019-310	23-May-19	First day of the third month following its passage and approval (Aug. 1, 2019)	Meat ("a food product that contains cultured animal tissue produced from animal cell cultures outside of the organism from which it is derived may not be labeled as meat or a meat food product")	The Commissioner may direct that such use be discontinued or withheld unless the marking, labeling or container is modified in such manner as he or she may prescribe so that it will not be false or misleading.	Ala. Code § 2-17-10	None as of October 2, 2020		
Arkansas	HB 1407/ Act 501	18-Mar-19	90 days following the adjournment of AR's legislature (July 23, 2019)	Beef (the flesh of domesticated cow or steer); Meat (an portion of livestock, poultry, or cervid carcass that is edible by humans); Pork (flesh of domesticate swine); Rice (whole, broken, or ground kernels of two species and wild rice); Utilizing a term that is similar or the same to a term that has been used or defined historically in reference to a specific agricultural product	Fine of an amount, of no more than, \$1,000 per violation (each item constitutes a separate violation). Fine can be waived is the violation was accidental or the person that violated the rule publicly acknowledges the violation and conducts a voluntary recall.	Ark. Code. Ann. § 2-1-300 et. Seq	Complaint	The Plaintiffs argue that the law is in violation of the US Constitution, specifically the First Amendment, Fourteenth Amendment, Due Process Clause, Dormant Commerce Clause and Freedom of Speech Clause. The plaintiff also argues that the law opens them up to advertising liabilities.	The court granted a preliminary injunction on December 11, 2019 enjoining enforcement of the six provisions of Act 501 that the plaintiff challenged. Turtle Island Foods SPC v. Soman, No. 4:19-CV-00514-KGB, 2019 WL 7546141, at *16 (E.D. Ark. Dec. 11, 2019).
Georgia	SB 211/ Act 486	24-Jul-20	31-Dec-20	Beef, Pork, Lamb, Animal "(means any animal, including cattle, swine, sheep, goats, fish, and poultry, including eggs, raised for the production of an edible product or products intended for human consumption. The term also includes 'game animals' as such term is defined in Code Section 27-1-2.)"		Will be Ga. Code Ann. § 26-2-125 on 12/31/2020	None as of October 12, 2020		
Kentucky	HB 311	21-Mar-19	90 days following the adjournment of KY's legislature (27-June-19)	Meat, Meat Product, Cultured Animal Tissue		Ky. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 217.035	None as of October 8, 2020		

Louisiana	SB 152/ Act 273	11-Jun-19	1-Oct-20	Meat or Meat Product ("product derived from harvested beef, pork, poultry, alligator, farm-raised deer, turtle, domesticated rabbit, crawfish, or shrimp carcass"), Rice, Beef or Beef Product (domesticated bovine), Pork or Pork Product (domesticated swine), Poultry (domesticated birds), terms that are the same as a deceptively similar to a term that has been used or defined historically in reference to a specific agricultural product.	Fine of an amount, of no more than \$500 for each violation. Each day on which a violation occurs shall be a separate offense. The commissioner may assess the proportionate costs of the adjudicatory hearing against the offender.	La. Stat. Ann. § 3:4741 et seq.	Complaint	The Plaintiff argues that the law imposes broad speech restriction on food producers and would prohibit it from marketing or selling of certain foods within the state. The Plaintiff is arguing a violation of the First Amendment and the Fourteenth Amendment,	The complaint has been filed, and the parties have had a telephone conference with the District Court Judge. No injunctive order has been issued.
Maine	HB 351	21-Jun-19	21-Jun-19	Meat and Poultry as defined by Title 22, Section 2511.	The Commissioner may suspend or revoke a license or may take any other action that the commissioner determines appropriate.	Me. Rev. Stat. tit. 22, § 2157 sub-§16	None as of October 8, 2020		
Mississippi	SB 2922	12-Mar-19	1-Jul-19	Meat ("a food product that contains cultured animal tissue produced from animal cell cultures outside of the organism from which it is derived" or "plant-based or insect-based food product shall not be labeled as meat or a meat food product.")	The Commissioner may direct that "such use be withheld unless the marketing, labeling, or container is modified in such a manner as he may prescribe so that it will not be false or misleading."	Miss. Code. Ann. § 75-35-15(4)	Complaint	The case raises a single claim under the First Amendment, seeking declaratory and injunctive relief.	Plaintiffs dropped the case after the Mississippi Department of Agriculture withdrew the proposed legislation and replaced it with a new regulation. The new regulation, which officially took effect November 7, declares that plant-based foods will not be considered to be labeled as a "meat" or "meat food product" if their label also describes the food as: "meat-free," "meatless," "plant-based," "vegetarian," "vegan," or uses any other comparable terms.

<p>Missouri</p>	<p>SB 627 & 925</p>	<p>1-Jun-18</p>	<p>28-Aug-18</p>	<p>Meat ("any edible portion of livestock, poultry, or captive cervid carcass or part thereof") that is derived from harvested production livestock ("cattle, calves, sheep, swine, ratite birds including but not limited to ostrich and emu, aquatic products..., llamas, alpaca, buffalo, bison, elk documented as obtained from a legal source and not from the wild, goats, or horses, other equines, or rabbits raised in confinement for human consumption") or poultry."</p>	<p>Any person who violates the law will be guilty of a Class A misdemeanor</p>	<p>Mo. Ann. Stat. § 265.494</p>	<p>Complaint</p>	<p>The plaintiffs argue that the law is unconstitutional under the First Amendment and that it was not enacted to address consumer confusion but to protect the agricultural industry.</p>	<p>The denial of the preliminary injunction is on appeal with the Eight Circuit. Oral Arguments are set to begin on November 19, 2020. On September 30, 2019, a federal judge denied the plaintiffs' motion for a preliminary injunction to enjoin enforcement of the labeling law. However, the court did certify a defendant class for all of Missouri's 115 prosecuting attorneys in their official capacity who might enforce the law. Turtle Island Foods, SPC v. Richardson, No. 2:18-CV-04173, 2019 WL 7546586, at *7 (W.D. Mo. Sept. 30, 2019)</p>
<p>Montana</p>	<p>HB 327</p>	<p>18-Apr-19</p>	<p>19-Apr-19</p>	<p>Meat ("means the edible flesh of livestock and poultry and includes livestock and poultry products. This section does not include cell-cultured edible products as defined by this Section.") Cell-Cultured Edible Products ("means the concept of meat including but not limited to muscle cells, fat cells, connective tissue, blood and other components produced via cell cultured, rather than a whole slaughtered animal.")</p>		<p>Mont. Code Ann. § 50-31-103; 50-31-110; 50-31-203; 50-31-312; and 81-9-217</p>	<p>None as of February 11, 2020</p>		

North Dakota	HB 1400	13-Mar-19	1-Aug-19	<p>Meat "(means the edible flesh of an animal born and harvested for the purpose of human consumption.)"</p> <p>Poultry "(includes domesticated fowl bred for the primary purpose of producing eggs or meat, or both, including chickens, turkeys, ostriches, emus, rheas, cassowaries, waterfowl, and game birds, but excluding doves and pigeons.)"</p>		N.D. Cent. Code Ann. § 4.1-31-05.1; 19-02.1; 4.1-31-01	None as of October 8, 2020		
Oklahoma	SB 392	26 Apr 19	1-Nov-20	Meat ("any edible portion of livestock, poultry, or captive-cervid carcass or part thereof")			Repealed		
Oklahoma	HB3806	19-May-20	1-Nov-20	<p>"Beef" means the flesh of bovine animal "beef product" means the edible products produced in whole or in part from beef excluding milk and milk products. "Pork" means the flesh of a porcine animal; "Pork products" means a product or byproduct produced in whole or in part from pork. "Meat" means any edible portion of livestock or part thereof.</p>		Okla. Stat. Ann. tit. 2, § 1-2	Complaint	The plaintiffs are bringing a First Amendment challenge against the state in response to the recently enacted truth-in-labeling law. Plaintiffs claim that their products are not misleading and this is a content-based regulation of speech. Plaintiffs are requesting both declaratory and injunctive relief.	The District Court Judge had taken the motion for a preliminary injunction under advisement.
South Carolina	HB 4245/ Act 79	16-May-19	16-May-19	<p>Cell-Cultured Meat (not derived from harvested production livestock, poultry, fish, or crustaceans and is cell-cultured) - DOES NOT APPLY TO PLANT BASED MEATS</p>	Misdemeanor - imprisonment not more than one year, or fined not more than \$1,000, or both	S.C. Code Ann. § 47-17-510:530	None as of October 9, 2020		

South Dakota	SB 68	18-Mar-19	18-Mar-19	Meat food product ("any product capable of use as human food which is made wholly or in part from any meat or other portion of the carcass of any cattle, bison, sheep, swine, goats, equine, ratites, captive cervidae, and other species...excepting products which contain meat or other portions of such carcasses only in a relatively small proportion"), meat by-product ("edible part other than meat which has been derived from one or more cattle, bison, sheep, swine, goats, equine, ratites, captive cervidae, and other species"), poultry		S.D. Codified Laws § 39-4-26	None as of October 8, 2020		
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Wyoming	SB 68	26-Feb-19	1-Jul-20	Meat ("means the edible part of the muscle of animals, which is skeletal or which is found in the tongue, in the diaphragm, in the heart or in the esophagus, with or without the accompanying or overlying fat, and the portions of bone, skin, sinew, nerve and blood vessels which normally accompany the muscle tissue and which are not separated from it in the process of dressing, but shall not include the muscle found in the lips, snout or ears, nor any edible part of the muscle which has been manufactured, cured, smoked, cooked or processed")		Wyo. Stat. Ann. § 35-7-111;119	None as of October 9, 2020		
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