

HB 1918 -- FOREIGN OWNERSHIP OF AGRICULTURAL LAND

SPONSOR: Dugger

In 2013, alien and foreign businesses were allowed to purchase agricultural acreage in the state so long as the total aggregate ownership did not exceed 1% of the total aggregate agricultural acreage in this state and Director of the Department of Agriculture must approve any sale, transfer, or acquisition of any agricultural land, and the department must establish the requirements for the submission and approval of requests to purchase, transfer, or acquire agricultural land. This bill reinstates the prohibition on foreign ownership of agricultural land, but specifies that no alien or foreign business that legally acquired agricultural land from October 11, 2013 to August 28, 2014 is considered to be in violation of the prohibition.