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H.746

Introduced by Representative Russell of Rutland City

Referred to Committee on

Date:

Subject: Crimes; animal cruelty

Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to add to the animal cruelty statute exposure of companion animals to extreme temperatures in a manner that results in the animal's injury or death.

An act relating to exposure as animal cruelty

It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

Sec. 1. 13 V.S.A. § 352 is amended to read:

§ 352. CRUELTY TO ANIMALS

A person commits the crime of cruelty to animals if the person:

(1) ~~intentionally~~ Intentionally kills or attempts to kill any animal belonging to another person without first obtaining legal authority or consent of the owner;

(2) ~~overworks~~ Overworks, overloads, tortures, torments, abandons, administers poison to, cruelly beats or mutilates an animal, or exposes a poison with intent that it be taken by an animal;

1 (3) ~~ties~~ Ties, tethers, or restrains an animal, either a pet or livestock, in a
2 manner that is inhumane or is detrimental to its welfare. Livestock and poultry
3 husbandry practices are exempted;

4 (4) ~~deprives~~ Deprives an animal which a person owns, possesses or acts
5 as an agent for, of adequate food, water, shelter, rest, sanitation, or necessary
6 medical attention, or transports an animal in overcrowded vehicles;

7 (5)(A) ~~owns~~ Owns, possesses, keeps, or trains an animal engaged in an
8 exhibition of fighting, or possesses, keeps, or trains any animal with intent that
9 it be engaged in an exhibition of fighting, or permits any such act to be done on
10 premises under his or her charge or control;

11 (B) ~~owns~~ Owns, possesses, ships, transports, delivers, or keeps a
12 device, equipment, or implement for the purpose of training or conditioning an
13 animal for participation in animal fighting, or enhancing an animal's fighting
14 capability.

15 (6) ~~aets~~ Acts as judge or spectator at events of animal fighting or bets or
16 wagers on the outcome of such fight;

17 (7) ~~as~~ As poundkeeper, officer, agent of a humane society, or as an
18 owner or employee of an establishment for treatment, board, or care of an
19 animal, knowingly receives, sells, transfers, or otherwise conveys an animal in
20 his or her care for the purpose of research or vivisection;

1 (8) ~~intentionally~~ Intentionally torments or harasses an animal owned or
2 engaged by a police department or public agency of the ~~state~~ State or its
3 political subdivisions, or interferes with the lawful performance of a police
4 animal;

5 (9) ~~knowingly~~ Knowingly sells, offers for sale, barter~~s~~, or displays
6 living baby chicks, ducklings, or other fowl which have been dyed, colored, or
7 otherwise treated so as to impart to them an artificial color, or fails to provide
8 poultry with proper brooder facilities;

9 (10) ~~uses~~ Uses a live animal as bait or lure in a race, game, or contest, or
10 in training animals in a manner inconsistent with 10 V.S.A. Part 4 ~~of Title 10~~
11 or the rules adopted thereunder.

12 (11) Exposes a dog or cat that is a companion animal which a person
13 owns to extreme heat or cold conditions for a prolonged period of time in a
14 manner that results in injury to or death of the animal.

15 Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE

16 This act shall take effect on passage.