

SENATE FILE NO. SF0125

Cruelty to animals-penalty.

Sponsored by: Senator(s) Devin, Coe and Massie and
Representative(s) Ross

A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to cruelty to animals; providing for a
2 felony offense if cruelty results in the death of an animal
3 as specified; prescribing a penalty; making conforming
4 amendments; and providing for an effective date.

5

6 *Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Wyoming:*

7

8 **Section 1.** W.S. 6-3-203(a)(intro), (i), (ii), (e),
9 (h), (j)(intro), (m)(intro) and by creating a new
10 subsection (n) is amended to read:

11

12 **6-3-203. Cruelty to animals; penalties; limitation on**
13 **manner of destruction.**

14

1 (a) A person commits cruelty to animals if he
2 knowingly and with intent to cause ~~death,~~ injury or undue
3 suffering:

4
5 (i) Overrides, an animal or drives an animal
6 when overloaded; ~~;~~ ~~tortures or torments an animal or~~
7 ~~deprives an animal of necessary sustenance;~~ or

8
9 (ii) Unnecessarily or cruelly beats, tortures,
10 torments, injures, or mutilates ~~or kills~~ an animal; or

11
12 (e) ~~Cruelty to animals~~ Unless punishable under
13 subsection (n) of this section, a violation of this section
14 is a misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment for not more
15 than six (6) months, a fine of not more than seven hundred
16 fifty dollars (\$750.00), or both except that a subsequent
17 offense, ~~or~~ aggravated cruelty to animals as defined by
18 ~~paragraphs~~ subsection (c) ~~(ii), (iv), (v) and (vi)~~ of this
19 section is a high misdemeanor punishable by not more than
20 one (1) year imprisonment, a fine of not more than five
21 thousand dollars (\$5,000.00), or both.

22
23 (h) If a person convicted of ~~cruelty to animals under~~
24 a violation of this section is also the owner of the

1 animal, the court may require the person to forfeit
2 ownership of the animal to the county in which the person
3 is convicted. This subsection shall not affect the
4 interest of any secured party or other person who has not
5 participated in the offense.

6

7 (j) In addition to any sentence and penalties imposed
8 under subsections (e), ~~and~~ (h) and (n) of this section, the
9 court may:

10

11 (m) Nothing in subsection (a), ~~or~~ (b) or (n) of this
12 section shall be construed to prohibit:

13

14 (n) A person commits a felony if he knowingly and
15 with intent to cause death, injury or undue suffering,
16 cruelly beats, tortures, torments, injures or mutilates an
17 animal resulting in the death or required euthanasia of the
18 animal. A felony under this subsection is punishable by not
19 more than two (2) years imprisonment, a fine of not more
20 than five thousand dollars (\$5,000.00), or both.

21

22 **Section 2.** This act is effective July 1, 2003.

23

24

(END)