

HOUSE BILL NO. HB0113

Cruelty to animals.

Sponsored by: Representative(s) Johnson, W.

A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to cruelty to animals; enhancing specified
2 criminal penalties for offenses relating to cruelty to
3 animals; and providing for an effective date.

4

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

6

7 **Section 1.** W.S. 6-3-203(e), (k) and by creating a new
8 subsection (n) is amended to read:

9

10 **6-3-203. Cruelty to animals; penalties; limitation on**
11 **manner of destruction.**

12

13 (e) The offenses specified in this section shall be
14 classified as follows:

15

16 (i) Except as otherwise provided in this
17 subsection, cruelty to animals is a misdemeanor punishable

1 by imprisonment for not more than six (6) months, a fine of
2 not more than seven hundred fifty dollars (\$750.00), or
3 both; ~~except that a subsequent~~

4
5 (ii) Unless the offender qualifies for
6 punishment under paragraph (iv) of this subsection, a
7 second offense of cruelty to animals, or a first offense of
8 aggravated cruelty to animals as defined by paragraphs
9 (c)(ii), (iv), (v) and (vi) of this section, is a high
10 misdemeanor punishable by not more than one (1) year
11 imprisonment, a fine of not more than five thousand dollars
12 (\$5,000.00), or both; ~~:-~~

13
14 (iii) Unless the offender qualifies for
15 punishment under paragraph (iv) of this subsection, a
16 second offense of aggravated cruelty to animals as defined
17 by paragraphs (c)(ii), (iv), (v) and (vi) of this section
18 is a high misdemeanor punishable by not more than one (1)
19 year imprisonment, a fine of not more than ten thousand
20 dollars (\$10,000.00), or both;

21
22 (iv) A person convicted of a third or subsequent
23 offense for any violation of this section is guilty of a
24 felony punishable by not more than five (5) years

1 imprisonment, a fine of not more than ten thousand dollars
2 (\$10,000.00), or both.

3
4 (k) Each animal affected by the defendant's conduct
5 may constitute a separate count for the purposes of
6 prosecution, conviction, sentencing and penalties under
7 this section, provided, however, that for the purpose of
8 enhancing sentences pursuant to subsection (e) of this
9 section, multiple counts arising out of the same occurrence
10 or related course of events shall constitute one (1)
11 offense.

12
13 (n) For the purposes of this section, "conviction" or
14 "convicted" includes pleas of guilty and nolo contendere
15 and verdicts of guilty upon which a judgment of conviction
16 may be rendered. "Conviction" or "convicted" shall not
17 include dispositions pursuant to W.S. 7-13-301.

18
19 **Section 2.** This act is effective July 1, 2003.

20
21 (END)