

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; and providing for an
4 effective date.

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

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8 **Section 1.** W.S. 6-3-203(a)(intro), (i), (ii), (e) and
9 (h) is amended to read:

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

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

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

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

(e) ~~Cruelty to animals~~ A violation of this section is a misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment for not more than six (6) months, a fine of not more than seven hundred fifty dollars (\$750.00), or both except that:

(i) A subsequent offense, ~~or~~ aggravated cruelty to animals as defined by ~~paragraphs~~ subsection (c) ~~(ii),~~ ~~(iv),~~ ~~(v) and (vi)~~ of this section is a high misdemeanor punishable by not more than one (1) year imprisonment, a fine of not more than five thousand dollars (\$5,000.00), or both; ~~;~~

(ii) A violation of paragraph (a)(ii) of this section which results in the death of the animal is a 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.

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4 (h) If a person convicted of ~~cruelty to animals under~~
5 a violation of this section is also the owner of the
6 animal, the court may require the person to forfeit
7 ownership of the animal to the county in which the person
8 is convicted. This subsection shall not affect the
9 interest of any secured party or other person who has not
10 participated in the offense.

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

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(END)