

HOUSE BILL NO. HB0049

Abuse of animals.

Sponsored by: Representative(s) Berger, Craft, Edwards,
Gentile, Illoway, Jones, Martin, Warren and
Zwonitzer, Dn., and Senator(s) Burns,
Aullman, Fecht, Hastert, Job, Mockler, Ross
and Von Flatern

A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to abuse of animals; increasing penalties
2 relating to cruelty to animal offenses; providing for
3 enforcement of animal abuse statutes by municipal animal
4 control officers; 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(e), 11-29-106, 11-29-109 and
9 11-29-114(a) are amended to read:

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

13

14 (e) Unless punishable under subsection (n) of this
15 section, a violation of this section is a misdemeanor

1 punishable by imprisonment for not more than six (6)
2 months, a fine of not more than seven hundred fifty dollars
3 (\$750.00), or both except that a subsequent offense or
4 aggravated cruelty to animals as defined by subsection (c)
5 of this section is a ~~high misdemeanor~~ felony punishable by
6 not more than ~~one (1) year~~ two (2) years imprisonment, a
7 fine of not more than five thousand dollars (\$5,000.00), or
8 both.

9

10 **11-29-106. Livestock board; authority to prevent**
11 **cruelty; penalty for interference with officer.**

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13 Any peace officer, municipal animal control officer or
14 agent or officer of the board may lawfully interfere to
15 prevent the perpetration of any act of cruelty upon any
16 animal in his presence. Any person who interferes with,
17 obstructs or resists any peace officer, municipal animal
18 control officer or officer or agent of the board in the
19 discharge of his duty shall be fined not less than two
20 hundred dollars (\$200.00) nor more than one thousand five
21 hundred dollars (\$1,500.00), ~~or~~ imprisoned not more than
22 one (1) year, or both.

23

1 **11-29-109. Livestock board; care of abandoned**
2 **animals; civil action for expenses; lien.**

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4 Any peace officer, municipal animal control officer or
5 agent or officer of the board may take charge of any animal
6 found abandoned, neglected or cruelly treated. He shall
7 give notice to the owner, if known, and may care and
8 provide for the animal until the owner takes charge of the
9 animal. The expenses of care and provision is a charge
10 against the owner of the animal and collectible from the
11 owner by the board or by the local government employing the
12 peace officer or municipal animal control officer taking
13 charge of the animal in a civil action. The board or local
14 government may detain the animals until the expense for
15 food, shelter and care is paid and shall have a lien upon
16 the animals therefor.

17

18 **11-29-114. Impoundment of animals; cost of care for**
19 **animals; providing for bond.**

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21 (a) Any peace officer, municipal animal control
22 officer or agent or officer of the board may take
23 possession of any animal treated cruelly as determined by a

1 licensed veterinarian or veterinarian employed by the
2 board.

3

4 **Section 2.** This act is effective July 1, 2007.

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6

(END)