



HB0275

Treatment of animals.

Sponsored By: Representative(s) Byron, Schmid, Singh and Williams
and Senator(s) Barlow, Hutchings, Landen, Nethercott
and Olsen

AN ACT relating to crimes and offenses; providing a misdemeanor offense and amending the offense of felony animal cruelty to address actions where wildlife is reduced to possession; prohibiting the torture of wildlife as specified; specifying the required treatment of certain wildlife; specifying penalties; providing for license revocation and suspension and forfeiture of devices and equipment for specified convictions; clarifying trapping requirements; removing a reporting requirement; providing definitions; making conforming amendments; and providing for an effective date.

1/21/2025 Bill Number Assigned
1/22/2025 H Received for Introduction
1/23/2025 H Introduced and Referred to H06 - Travel
1/28/2025 H06 - Travel:Recommend Amend and Do Pass 9-0-0-0-0

ROLL CALL

Ayes: Representative(s) Byron, Campbell, Connolly, Harshman, Jarvis, Provenza, Storer, Thayer, Wharff

Ayes 9 **Nays** 0 **Excused** 0 **Absent** 0 **Conflicts** 0

1/28/2025 H Placed on General File

HB0275HS001/ADOPTED

(CORRECTED COPY)

Page 1-line 1 After "offenses;" insert "providing a misdemeanor offense and".

Page 1-line 4 After "specified;" insert "specifying the required treatment of certain wildlife;".

Page 1-line 6 Delete "felony animal cruelty".

Page 1-line 14 After "(vi)," insert "6-3-1004 by creating a new subsection (c),".

Page 2-line 1 After "creating" delete "a".

Page 2-line 2 Delete "subsection" and insert "subsections"; after "(d)" insert "and (e)".

Page 2-line 3 After "23-6-206(a)(intro) and" delete "(ii)" and insert "(iii)".

Page 2-line 17 After "23-1-101(a)(xiii)." insert ""Wildlife shall not include amphibians, crustaceans, fish, mollusks and reptiles."".

Page 2-after line 17 Insert:

"6-3-1004. Penalties; misdemeanor offenses.

(c) A first offense of cruelty to animals under W.S. 6-3-1005(a)(iii) and 23-3-103(d) is a misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment for not more than six (6) months, a fine of not more than five thousand dollars (\$5,000.00), or both. The person shall also be subject to revocation and suspension of licenses and privileges as provided in W.S. 6-3-1005(c) and W.S. 23-3-103(d)."

Page 2-line 21 After "(a)" insert "Except as provided in W.S. 6-3-1004(c) and paragraph (a)(iii) of this section".

Page 3-line 10 Delete "any".

Page 4-after line 2 Insert:

"(C) A first offense of cruelty to animals under this paragraph and W.S. 23-3-103(d) is a misdemeanor punishable as provided in W.S. 6-3-1004(c). A second or subsequent offense under this paragraph or W.S. 23-3-103(d) is punishable as provided by subsections (b) and (c) of this section."

Page 4-line 4 Delete "this section" insert "a first or subsequent violation of paragraph (a)(iii) of this section and W.S. 23-3-103(d)".

Page 4-line 6 Delete "available" and insert "issued".

Page 4-line 8 Delete "under" and insert "as specified in".

Page 4-line 10 Delete "23-6-206" and insert "23-6-206(a)(iii)".

Page 5-line 3 After "released" insert "subject to subsection (d) of this section".

Page 5-after line 3 Insert and renumber as necessary:

"(d) No person shall knowingly, and with intent to cause undue suffering, torture, torment or mutilate living wildlife, including predatory animals and predatory birds, after reducing the living wildlife to possession. A person violating this subsection shall be liable under W.S. 6-3-1004(c) for a first offense and under W.S. 6-3-1005(a)(iii), (b) and (c) for a second or subsequent offense. Upon any conviction of a violation of this subsection the court may revoke any license issued under this act and suspend a person's privilege to purchase or receive any other license under this act or to take any wildlife as provided under W.S. 23-6-206(a)(iii). For purposes of this subsection, "wildlife" means as defined by W.S. 6-3-1001(a)(vi)."

Page 5-line 5 Delete "(d)" and insert "(e)"

Page 6-lines 19 through 21 Delete entirely and insert:

"(iii) Up to three (3) years for conviction of a low misdemeanor as provided in W.S. 23-6-202(a)(v) or for conviction of a violation of W.S. 6-3-1005(a)(iii) or W.S. 23-3-103(d);"

Page 7-line 8 After "6-3-1005(a)(iii)," insert "23-3-103(d)".

Page 8-line 1 After "6-3-1005(a)(iii)," insert "23-3-103(d)". BYRON,
CHAIRMAN

2/4/2025 H COW:Passed
2/5/2025 H 2nd Reading:Passed

HB0275H3001/FAILED

Page 2-line 2 After "23-3-306" insert "(a) and".

Page 5-after line 15 Insert:

"(a) The following shall apply to the taking of wildlife:

(i) When on a person's private land, no person shall harass, pursue, hunt, shoot, or kill any Wyoming wildlife except predatory animals with, from, or by use of any aircraft, automotive vehicle, trailer, motor-propelled wheeled vehicle, or vehicle designed for travel over snow;

(ii) When on public land, no person shall:

(A) Pursue, hunt, shoot or kill any Wyoming wildlife except predatory animals or predacious birds from or by use of any aircraft, automotive vehicle, trailer, motor-propelled wheeled vehicle or vehicle designed for travel over snow;

(B) Harass, injure or kill any Wyoming wildlife, predatory animals or predacious birds with an automotive vehicle, trailer, motor-propelled wheeled vehicle or vehicle designed for travel over snow.

(iii) No person shall use any aircraft, to aid in the taking of any Wyoming wildlife, except predatory animals, whether by spotting or locating the wildlife, communicating with any person attempting to take the wildlife, or by providing other aid to any person taking the wildlife. Nothing in this subsection shall apply to the use of any aircraft by governmental agencies, their employees, contractors or designees performing any lawful duties. The commission may exempt handicapped hunters from any provision of this subsection. For purposes of this section "aircraft" means any machine or device capable of atmospheric flight including but not limited to an airplane, helicopter, glider, dirigible or unmanned aerial vehicle." SCHMID, PROVENZA

2/6/2025 H 3rd Reading:Passed 57-3-2-0-0

ROLL CALL

Ayes: Representative(s) Allemand, Andrew, Angelos, Banks, Bear, Brady, Bratten, Brown, G, Brown, L, Byron, Campbell, E, Campbell, K, Chestek, Clouston, Connolly, Davis, Eklund, Erickson, Filer, Geringer, Guggenmos, Haroldson, Harshman, Heiner, Hoeft, Jarvis, Johnson, Kelly, Knapp, Larsen, Larson, Lawley, Lien, Locke, Lucas, Mccann, Neiman, Nicholas, Ottman, Pendergraft, Posey, Provenza, Rodriguez-Williams, Schmid, Sherwood, Singh, Smith, Storer, Styvar, Tarver, Thayer, Washut, Wasserburger, Webb, Williams, Wylie, Yin

Nays: Representative(s) Stroock, Webber, Wharff

Excused: Representative(s) Riggins, Winter

Ayes 57 Nays 3 Excused 2 Absent 0 Conflicts 0

2/7/2025 S Received for Introduction
2/14/2025 S Introduced and Referred to S06 - Travel
2/20/2025 S06 - Travel:Recommend Do Pass 4-1-0-0-0

ROLL CALL

Ayes: Senator(s) Boner, Jones, Landen, Schuler

Nays: Senator Hicks

Ayes 4 **Nays** 1 **Excused** 0 **Absent** 0 **Conflicts** 0

2/20/2025 S Placed on General File