



General Assembly

February Session, 2012

Raised Bill No. 5289

LCO No. 1179

* _____HB05289JUD__040212_____*

Referred to Committee on Judiciary

Introduced by:
(JUD)

AN ACT INCREASING THE PENALTY FOR SUBSEQUENT OFFENSES OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 53-247 of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2012*):

3 (a) Any person who overdrives, drives when overloaded,
4 overworks, tortures, deprives of necessary sustenance, mutilates or
5 cruelly beats or kills or unjustifiably injures any animal, or who,
6 having impounded or confined any animal, fails to give such animal
7 proper care or neglects to cage or restrain any such animal from doing
8 injury to itself or to another animal or fails to supply any such animal
9 with wholesome air, food and water, or unjustifiably administers any
10 poisonous or noxious drug or substance to any domestic animal or
11 unjustifiably exposes any such drug or substance, with intent that the
12 same shall be taken by an animal, or causes it to be done, or, having
13 charge or custody of any animal, inflicts cruelty upon it or fails to
14 provide it with proper food, drink or protection from the weather or
15 abandons it or carries it or causes it to be carried in a cruel manner, or
16 fights with or baits, harasses or worries any animal for the purpose of

17 making it perform for amusement, diversion or exhibition, shall, for a
18 first offense, be fined not more than one thousand dollars or
19 imprisoned not more than one year or both, and for each subsequent
20 offense, shall be fined not more than five thousand dollars or
21 imprisoned not more than five years or both.

22 (b) Any person who maliciously and intentionally maims, mutilates,
23 tortures, wounds or kills an animal shall be fined not more than five
24 thousand dollars or imprisoned not more than five years or both. The
25 provisions of this subsection shall not apply to any licensed
26 veterinarian while following accepted standards of practice of the
27 profession or to any person while following approved methods of
28 slaughter under section 22-272a, while performing medical research as
29 an employee of, student in or person associated with any hospital,
30 educational institution or laboratory, while following generally
31 accepted agricultural practices or while lawfully engaged in the taking
32 of wildlife.

33 (c) Any person who knowingly (1) owns, possesses, keeps or trains
34 an animal engaged in an exhibition of fighting for amusement or gain,
35 (2) possesses, keeps or trains an animal with the intent that it be
36 engaged in an exhibition of fighting for amusement or gain, (3) permits
37 an act described in subdivision (1) or (2) of this subsection to take place
38 on premises under his control, (4) acts as judge or spectator at an
39 exhibition of animal fighting for amusement or gain, or (5) bets or
40 wagers on the outcome of an exhibition of animal fighting for
41 amusement or gain, shall be fined not more than five thousand dollars
42 or imprisoned not more than five years or both.

43 (d) Any person who intentionally injures any animal while such
44 animal is in the performance of its duties under the supervision of a
45 peace officer, as defined in section 53a-3, or intentionally injures a dog
46 that is a member of a volunteer canine search and rescue team, as
47 defined in section 5-249, while such dog is in the performance of its
48 duties under the supervision of the active individual member of such
49 team, shall be fined not more than five thousand dollars or imprisoned

50 not more than five years or both.

51 (e) Any person who intentionally kills any animal while such
52 animal is in the performance of its duties under the supervision of a
53 peace officer, as defined in section 53a-3, or intentionally kills a dog
54 that is a member of a volunteer canine search and rescue team, as
55 defined in section 5-249, while such dog is in the performance of its
56 duties under the supervision of the active individual member of such
57 team, shall be fined not more than ten thousand dollars or imprisoned
58 not more than ten years or both.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	October 1, 2012	53-247

JUD *Joint Favorable*