

SENATE BILL NO. 1352

103RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY SENATOR NICOLA.

5157S.011

KRISTINA MARTIN, Secretary

AN ACT

To repeal section 578.012, RSMo, and to enact in lieu thereof one new section relating to the offense of animal abuse, with penalty provisions.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Missouri, as follows:

Section A. Section 578.012, RSMo, is repealed and one new
2 section enacted in lieu thereof, to be known as section 578.012,
3 to read as follows:

578.012. 1. A person commits the offense of animal
2 abuse if he or she:

3 (1) Intentionally or purposely kills an animal in any
4 manner not allowed by or expressly exempted from the
5 provisions of sections 578.005 to 578.023 and 273.030;

6 (2) Purposely or intentionally causes injury or
7 suffering to an animal; or

8 (3) Having ownership or custody of an animal knowingly
9 fails to provide adequate care which results in substantial
10 harm to the animal.

11 2. Animal abuse is a class A misdemeanor, unless the
12 defendant has previously been found guilty of animal abuse
13 [or], the suffering involved in subdivision (2) of
14 subsection 1 of this section is the result of torture or
15 mutilation [consciously] inflicted while the animal was
16 alive, **or the harm involved in subdivision (3) of subsection**

EXPLANATION-Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in this bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

17 **1 of this section is the result of starvation,** in which case
18 it is a class E felony.

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