

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to the law as it existed prior to this session of the General Assembly.

1 State of Arkansas
2 84th General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2003

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 2248

4
5 By: Representative Blair
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For An Act To Be Entitled

8
9 AN ACT TO ENHANCE THE PENALTY FOR THE OFFENSE OF
10 CRUELTY TO ANIMALS COMMITTED AGAINST DOGS AND
11 CATS ONLY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.
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Subtitle

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14 AN ACT TO ENHANCE THE PENALTY FOR THE
15 OFFENSE OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS COMMITTED
16 AGAINST DOGS AND CATS ONLY.
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19 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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21 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 5-62-101 is amended to read as follows:
22 5-62-101. Cruelty to animals.

23 (a) A person commits the offense of cruelty to animals if, except as
24 authorized by law, he or she knowingly:

- 25 (1) Abandons any animal;
26 (2) Subjects any animal to cruel mistreatment;
27 (3) Subjects any animal in his or her custody to cruel neglect;

28 or

29 (4) Kills or injures any animal belonging to another without
30 legal privilege or consent of the owner.

31 (b)(1) Cruelty to animals is a Class A misdemeanor.

32 (2) Any person who pleads guilty or nolo contendere to or is
33 found guilty of violating subdivision (a) of this section for a second or
34 subsequent offense committed against a dog or cat and who previously plead
35 guilty or nolo contendere to or been found guilty of violating subdivision
36 (a) of this section committed against a dog or cat shall be guilty of a Class



1 D felony.

2 (c)(1) In addition to all other penalties provided by law, the court
3 may order any person found guilty of cruelty to animals to receive a
4 psychiatric or psychological evaluation, and if determined appropriate,
5 psychiatric or psychological counseling or treatment.

6 (2) The cost of any evaluation, counseling, or treatment may be
7 ordered paid by the defendant up to the jurisdictional limit of the court.

8 (d) If the person pleads guilty or nolo contendere to or is found
9 guilty of cruelty to animals, the court may assign custody of the abused
10 animal or animals to a society which is incorporated for the prevention of
11 cruelty to animals.

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