

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

SENATE BILL NO. 695

96TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY SENATOR PARSON.

Read 1st time January 24, 2012, and ordered printed.

TERRY L. SPIELER, Secretary.

4677S.021

AN ACT

To repeal section 578.005, RSMo, and to enact in lieu thereof two new sections relating to suspected abuse of farm animals, with penalty provisions.

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

Section A. Section 578.005, RSMo, is repealed and two new sections
2 enacted in lieu thereof, to be known as sections 578.005 and 578.013, to read as
3 follows:

578.005. As used in sections 578.005 to 578.023, the following terms shall
2 mean:

3 (1) "Adequate care", normal and prudent attention to the needs of an
4 animal, including wholesome food, clean water, shelter and health care as
5 necessary to maintain good health in a specific species of animal;

6 (2) "Adequate control", to reasonably restrain or govern an animal so that
7 the animal does not injure itself, any person, any other animal, or property;

8 (3) "Animal", every living vertebrate except a human being;

9 (4) "Animal shelter", a facility which is used to house or contain animals
10 and which is owned, operated, or maintained by a duly incorporated humane
11 society, animal welfare society, society for the prevention of cruelty to animals,
12 or other not-for-profit organization devoted to the welfare, protection, and
13 humane treatment of animals;

14 (5) "Farm animal", an animal raised on a farm or ranch and used or
15 intended for use in farm or ranch production, or as food or fiber;

16 (6) "Farm animal professional", any individual employed at a
17 location where farm animals are harbored;

18 (7) "Harbor", to feed or shelter an animal at the same location for three

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

19 or more consecutive days;

20 [(7)] (8) "Humane killing", the destruction of an animal accomplished by
21 a method approved by the American Veterinary Medical Association's Panel on
22 Euthanasia (JAVMA 173: 59-72, 1978); or more recent editions, but animals killed
23 during the feeding of pet carnivores shall be considered humanely killed;

24 [(8)] (9) "Owner", in addition to its ordinary meaning, any person who
25 keeps or harbors an animal or professes to be owning, keeping, or harboring an
26 animal;

27 [(9)] (10) "Person", any individual, partnership, firm, joint stock
28 company, corporation, association, trust, estate, or other legal entity;

29 [(10)] (11) "Pests", birds, rabbits, or rodents which damage property or
30 have an adverse effect on the public health, but shall not include any endangered
31 species listed by the United States Department of the Interior nor any
32 endangered species listed in the Wildlife Code of Missouri.

**578.013. 1. Whenever any farm animal professional videotapes
2 or otherwise makes a digital recording of what he or she believes to
3 depict a farm animal subjected to abuse or neglect under sections
4 578.009 or 578.012, such farm animal professional shall have a duty to
5 submit such videotape or digital recording to a law enforcement agency
6 within twenty-fours of the recording.**

7 **2. No videotape or digital recording submitted under subsection
8 1 of this section shall be spliced, edited, or manipulated in any way
9 prior to its submission.**

10 **3. A violation of any provision of this section is a class A
11 misdemeanor.**

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