

HB 1176 -- Animal Research and Production Facilities

Sponsor: Guest

This bill prohibits persons from certain acts as they relate to animal facilities. Those acts include:

- (1) Obtaining employment through false pretenses for the purpose of performing acts not authorized by the animal facility;
- (2) Entering an animal facility with the intent to damage, duplicate, or obtain unauthorized possession of records, images, equipment, or animals;
- (3) Obtaining images by trespassing for the purpose of damaging or destroying records, animals, equipment, or animal facilities; and
- (4) Intentionally releasing in an animal facility any pathogen or disease that has the potential to cause disease in any animal or threaten human health or biosecurity.

Persons committing these acts are guilty of a felony with the felony class determined by the dollar loss resulting from the unlawful act.

The Director of the Department of Agriculture is given the authority to initiate a civil action in the circuit court of the county in which the violation occurred.