

HB 1441 -- Large Carnivore Act

Sponsor: Sutherland

This bill establishes the Large Carnivore Act which prohibits the breeding of "large carnivores," defined as certain cats of the Felidae family or any species of bear. Except as provided in the bill, the possession, ownership, or transfer of ownership of a large carnivore is also prohibited.

Requirements for the permitting, confinement, sanitation, feeding, transporting, identification, veterinary care, seizure, and euthanasia of large carnivores are specified. The requirements are in addition to any applicable state or federal law and do not preclude any local political subdivision from adopting more restrictive laws. Certain entities, law enforcement officials, animal control officers, and veterinarians are exempt from the bill.

The penalty for violations varies according to the severity of the offense.