

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

# HOUSE BILL NO. 2825

## 103RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY

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INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE DOLL.

6278H.01I

JOSEPH ENGLER, Chief Clerk

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### AN ACT

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

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Section A. Section 578.012, RSMo, is repealed and one new section enacted in lieu thereof, to be known as section 578.012, to read as follows:

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

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

4       (2) Purposely or intentionally causes injury or suffering to an animal; or  
5       (3) Having ownership or custody of an animal knowingly fails to provide adequate  
6 care which results in substantial harm to the animal.

7       2. Animal abuse is a class ~~A-misdemeanor~~ **E felony**, unless the defendant has  
8 previously been found guilty of animal abuse or the suffering involved in subdivision (2) of  
9 subsection 1 of this section is the result of torture or mutilation consciously inflicted while the  
10 animal was alive, in which case it is a class **[E] D felony**.

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EXPLANATION — Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets **[thus]** in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted from the law. Matter in **bold-face** type in the above bill is proposed language.