



Senate Agriculture and Rural Affairs Committee

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Chairman

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October 15, 2012

House Bill: 2630

Printer's Number: 4143

Prime Sponsor: Maher

The existing penalty of \$250 is increased and ranges from \$500 to \$1000 per violation day. All fines collected under the act shall be deposited into the Dog Law Restricted Account.

Effective Date: 90 Days

SYNOPSIS

Creates the Animal Euthanasia Method Act and makes a related repeal.

AMENDMENT SUMMARY

HB 2630 repeals the existing Animal Destruction Method Authorization Law and establishes a separate freestanding act. The bill prohibits certain methods of destruction of animals and establishes the required method of euthanasia by use of drugs approved for animal euthanasia by the Food and Drug Administration. Such drugs shall be administered by a veterinarian, certified veterinary technician, or other individual under the supervision of a veterinarian.

The prohibited methods of animal destruction are:

- A high altitude decompression chamber or device
- Carbon monoxide gas
- Drowning
- Other gases for animals under seven weeks of age under certain circumstances

The act does not apply to activities undertaken in normal agricultural operation, medical and veterinary schools and research facilities. The existing law providing for the humane destruction of an animal by use of firearms is preserved, with the exception of dogs in commercial kennels, which is prohibited under the Dog Law. The act does not apply to feral or dangerous animals, unless they are dogs or cats.

CURRENT LAW

New Law

The Animal Destruction Method Authorization Law (Act 83 of 1983) is repealed by this legislation. It currently prohibits the use of high altitude decompression chambers and certain gases to destroy animals, but permits the use of carbon monoxide under certain conditions.

The Dog Law (Act 225 of 1982), by amendment (Act 119 of 2008), prohibits the use of firearms to euthanize dogs in commercial kennels.