

ASSEMBLY, No. 2041

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 217th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2016 SESSION

Sponsored by:

Assemblyman REED GUSCIORA

District 15 (Hunterdon and Mercer)

Assemblyman DANIEL R. BENSON

District 14 (Mercer and Middlesex)

Assemblywoman L. GRACE SPENCER

District 29 (Essex)

Co-Sponsored by:

Assemblywoman Lampitt and Assemblyman Wimberly

SYNOPSIS

Requires court to issue animal protective orders against persons found guilty of abusing animals.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel.



1 AN ACT concerning the protection of animals from abuse and
2 supplementing Title 4 of the Revised Statutes.

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4 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
5 of New Jersey:

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7 1. a. In addition to the provisions of Title 4 of the Revised
8 Statutes concerning the confiscation and restrictions on ownership
9 of animals, the court, upon finding a person guilty of abusing an
10 animal or otherwise violating the State animal cruelty laws, may
11 issue an animal protection order against the person adjudged guilty
12 of the abuse or other violation, requiring the person to refrain from
13 interacting with an animal permanently or for a period of time
14 specified by the court. The animal protection order may apply to a
15 specific animal with which the adjudged person has had contact, or
16 any other animal, as determined to be appropriate by the court.

17 b. Any person who knowingly violates a condition of an animal
18 protection order issued pursuant to this section, and, as a result,
19 causes injury to the animal that is the subject of the animal
20 protection order, shall be guilty of a disorderly persons offense.

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22 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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25 STATEMENT

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27 This bill would authorize a court, upon finding a person guilty of
28 abusing an animal or otherwise violating the State animal cruelty
29 laws, to issue an animal protection order against the person
30 adjudged guilty of the abuse or other violation. The animal
31 protection order would require the person to refrain from interacting
32 with an animal permanently or for a period of time specified by the
33 court. The animal protection order may apply to a specific animal
34 with which the adjudged person has contact, or to any other animal,
35 as determined to be appropriate by the court.

36 The bill would also provide that whenever a person knowingly
37 violates the conditions of an animal protection order and, as a
38 result, causes injury to the animal that is the subject of the animal
39 protection order, the person would be guilty of a disorderly persons
40 offense.