

ASSEMBLY, No. 2052

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 217th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2016 SESSION

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District 15 (Hunterdon and Mercer)
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District 33 (Hudson)

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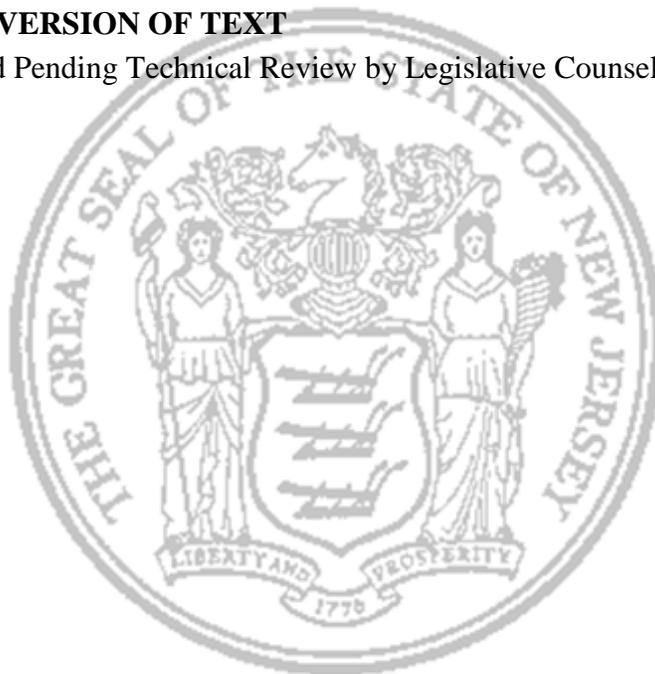
Assemblywoman Tucker, Assemblymen McKeon, S.Kean, Bramnick, Diegnan, Assemblywoman Jimenez, Assemblymen Giblin, Auth, Assemblywomen Jasey, Quijano, Assemblymen Schaer, Rible and Coughlin

SYNOPSIS

Revises definition of “necessary care” in the State’s animal cruelty law to include more specific requirements.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel.



1 AN ACT concerning animal cruelty and amending R.S.4:22-15.

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

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6 1. R.S.4:22-15 is amended to read as follows:

7 4:22-15. As used in this article:

8 "Animal" or "creature" includes the whole brute creation.

9 "Bodily injury" means physical pain, illness or any impairment
10 of physical condition.

11 "Necessary care" means care sufficient to preserve the health and
12 well-being of an animal, and **[includes, but is not limited to:]** ,
13 except for emergencies or circumstances beyond the reasonable
14 control of the person responsible for the care of the animal,
15 providing the following: (1) food of sufficient quantity and quality
16 to allow for normal growth or maintenance of body weight; (2)
17 open or adequate access to drinkable water of an appropriate
18 temperature in sufficient quantity and quality to satisfy the
19 **[animal's]** needs of the animal; (3) access to adequate protection
20 from the weather, including an enclosed non-hazardous structure
21 sufficient to protect the animal in which there is adequate bedding
22 to protect the animal against cold and dampness; (4) adequate
23 protection for the animal from extreme or excessive sunlight and
24 from overexposure to the sun, heat and other weather conditions;
25 **[and]** (5) veterinary care to alleviate suffering and maintain health;
26 and (6) reasonable access to a clean and adequate exercise area.

27 "Owner" or "person" includes a corporation, and the knowledge
28 and acts of an agent or employee of a corporation in regard to
29 animals transported, owned, employed, or in the custody of the
30 corporation shall be imputed to the corporation.

31 "Serious bodily injury" means bodily injury which creates a
32 substantial risk of death or which causes serious, permanent
33 disfigurement, or protracted loss or impairment of the function of
34 any bodily member or organ.

35 (cf: P.L.2013, c.88, s.1)

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37 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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STATEMENT

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42 This bill amends the definition for "necessary care," established
43 by P.L.2013, c.88 (designated as Patrick's Law), to provide for
44 additional specific care requirements.

EXPLANATION – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets **[thus]** in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

1 Under the bill, “necessary care” means care sufficient to preserve
2 the health and well-being of an animal, and, except for emergencies
3 or circumstances beyond the reasonable control of the person
4 responsible for the care of the animal, providing the following: (1)
5 food of sufficient quantity and quality to allow for normal growth
6 or maintenance of body weight; (2) open or adequate access to
7 drinkable water of an appropriate temperature in sufficient quantity
8 to satisfy the needs of the animal; (3) access to adequate protection
9 from the weather, including an enclosed non-hazardous structure
10 sufficient to protect the animal in which there is adequate bedding
11 to protect the animal against cold and dampness; (4) adequate
12 protection for the animal from extreme or excessive sunlight and
13 from overexposure to the sun, heat and other weather conditions;
14 (5) veterinary care to alleviate suffering and maintain health; and
15 (6) reasonable access to a clean and adequate exercise area.