

HOUSE BILL No. 1248

DIGEST OF INTRODUCED BILL

Citations Affected: IC 14-8-2; IC 14-22-26.5.

Synopsis: Direct contact with specified animals. Prohibits a person that owns or possesses a specified animal from allowing a member of the public to come into direct contact, or enter into a proximity that allows for or permits direct contact, with the specified animal. Provides that a violation of the law is a Class B infraction. Excludes from the substance of the bill physical contact or proximity between certain individuals and a specified animal. Defines the terms "direct contact", "proximity", "specified animal", and "trained".

Effective: July 1, 2022.

Abbott, Campbell

January 6, 2022, read first time and referred to Committee on Natural Resources.



Second Regular Session of the 122nd General Assembly (2022)

PRINTING CODE. Amendments: Whenever an existing statute (or a section of the Indiana Constitution) is being amended, the text of the existing provision will appear in this style type, additions will appear in **this style type**, and deletions will appear in ~~this style type~~.

Additions: Whenever a new statutory provision is being enacted (or a new constitutional provision adopted), the text of the new provision will appear in **this style type**. Also, the word **NEW** will appear in that style type in the introductory clause of each SECTION that adds a new provision to the Indiana Code or the Indiana Constitution.

Conflict reconciliation: Text in a statute in *this style type* or ~~this style type~~ reconciles conflicts between statutes enacted by the 2021 Regular Session of the General Assembly.

HOUSE BILL No. 1248

A BILL FOR AN ACT to amend the Indiana Code concerning natural and cultural resources.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:

1 SECTION 1. IC 14-8-2-70.8 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE
2 AS A **NEW** SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY
3 1, 2022]: **Sec. 70.8. "Direct contact", for purposes of IC 14-22-26.5,**
4 **has the meaning set forth in IC 14-22-26.5-2.**

5 SECTION 2. IC 14-8-2-221.5 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA
6 CODE AS A **NEW** SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS
7 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2022]: **Sec. 221.5. "Proximity", for purposes**
8 **of IC 14-22-26.5, has the meaning set forth in IC 14-22-26.5-3.**

9 SECTION 3. IC 14-8-2-262.5 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA
10 CODE AS A **NEW** SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS
11 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2022]: **Sec. 262.5. "Specified animal", for**
12 **purposes of IC 14-22-26.5, has the meaning set forth in**
13 **IC 14-22-26.5-4.**

14 SECTION 4. IC 14-8-2-282.5 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA
15 CODE AS A **NEW** SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS
16 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2022]: **Sec. 282.5. "Trained", for purposes of**
17 **IC 14-22-26.5, has the meaning set forth in IC 14-22-26.5-5.**



1 SECTION 5. IC 14-22-26.5 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE
 2 AS A NEW CHAPTER TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 3 JULY 1, 2022]:

4 **Chapter 26.5. Specified Animals**

5 **Sec. 1. This chapter does not apply to physical contact or**
 6 **proximity between a specified animal and any of the following:**

7 (1) The owner of the facility in which the specified animal is
 8 kept.

9 (2) A trained employee of the facility's owner who is
 10 conducting the trained employee's duties, as determined by
 11 the facility's owner, for the specified animal.

12 (3) A contractor, intern, service provider, or another person
 13 who is performing duties for the specified animal under a
 14 contract or other engagement with the facility's owner.

15 (4) A licensed veterinarian.

16 (5) A veterinary intern or specialist accompanying a licensed
 17 veterinarian.

18 (6) A registered veterinary technician under the direct or
 19 indirect supervision of a licensed veterinarian.

20 (7) A veterinary student under the direct supervision of a
 21 licensed veterinarian.

22 **Sec. 2. (a) As used in this chapter, "direct contact" means**
 23 **physical contact between the public and a specified animal.**

24 **(b) The term includes the taking of a photograph of a specified**
 25 **animal except where there is located between the public and the**
 26 **specified animal a permanent physical barrier designed to prevent**
 27 **physical contact between the public and the specified animal.**

28 **Sec. 3. As used in this chapter, "proximity" means a distance**
 29 **created by a visual or physical barrier, including a barrier fence,**
 30 **safety line, or other means to signify a restricted area, that is**
 31 **designed to prevent a member of the public from touching a**
 32 **primary, permeable barrier that contains a specified animal.**

33 **Sec. 4. As used in this chapter, "specified animal" means a live**
 34 **animal that is any of the following:**

35 (1) An animal from the following species of Felidae:

36 (A) Lions (*Panthera leo*).

37 (B) Tigers (*Panthera tigris*).

38 (C) Leopards (*Panthera pardus*).

39 (D) Snow leopards (*Panthera uncia*).

40 (E) Jaguars (*Panthera onca*).

41 (F) Mountain lions (*Puma concolor*).

42 (G) Any hybrid of a species listed in clauses (A) through



1 (F).
2 (2) A bear (Ursidae).
3 (3) An animal designated by the department in a rule
4 authorized by this chapter.
5 Sec. 5. As used in this chapter, "trained" means having
6 participated in specific instruction with a specified animal.
7 Sec. 6. A person that owns or possesses a specified animal may
8 not allow a member of the public to:
9 (1) come into direct contact with; or
10 (2) enter into a proximity that allows for or permits direct
11 contact with;
12 the specified animal, regardless of the age of the specified animal.
13 Sec. 7. The department may adopt rules under IC 4-22-2 to
14 implement this chapter.
15 Sec. 8. A person that violates this chapter commits a Class B
16 infraction.

