

CHAPTER.....

AN ACT relating to animals; deleting certain provisions which make a report of an act of cruelty against an animal confidential; revising the prohibition against willfully releasing data or information concerning the report so that the prohibition only applies to data or information concerning the identity of the person who makes the report; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

**Legislative Counsel’s Digest:**

Existing law prohibits a person from committing an act of cruelty against an animal. (NRS 574.100) Cruelty is defined to include any act, omission or neglect, whereby unjustifiable physical pain, suffering or death is caused or permitted. (NRS 574.050) Existing law authorizes a person to report such an act of cruelty against an animal to any peace officer, officer of a society for the prevention of cruelty to animals or animal control officer. Existing law further provides, with certain exceptions, that the report is confidential and that the willful release of any data or information concerning the report constitutes a misdemeanor. (NRS 574.053) This bill deletes the provision which makes the report confidential and provides instead, with certain exceptions, that the willful release of any data or information concerning the identity of a person who made the report constitutes a misdemeanor.

EXPLANATION – Matter in *bolded italics* is new; matter between brackets ~~omitted material~~ is material to be omitted.

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THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, REPRESENTED IN  
SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

**Section 1.** NRS 574.053 is hereby amended to read as follows:

574.053 1. Any person who knows or has reasonable cause to believe that an animal has been subjected to an act of cruelty in violation of NRS 574.100 may report the act of cruelty to any:

- (a) Peace officer;
- (b) Officer of a society for the prevention of cruelty to animals who is authorized to make arrests pursuant to NRS 574.040; or
- (c) Animal control officer.

2. ~~Any report made pursuant to subsection 1 is confidential.~~

~~3.~~ Any person, law enforcement agency, society for the prevention of cruelty to animals or animal control agency that willfully releases data or information concerning the ~~reports,~~ *identity of a person who made a report pursuant to subsection 1,*



except for the purposes of a criminal investigation or prosecution, is guilty of a misdemeanor.

**Sec. 2.** This act becomes effective upon passage and approval.

