

HOUSE BILL NO. HB0193

Animal protection.

Sponsored by: Representative(s) Zwonitzer and Bovee and  
Senator(s) Burns

A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to animals; amending the crimes of cruelty  
2 to animals and aggravated cruelty to animals; amending  
3 penalties; providing for forfeiture of animals as  
4 specified; authorizing conditions a court may require as  
5 part of an order of protection in a domestic abuse case  
6 related to animal protection; repealing a provision; and  
7 providing for an effective date.

8

9 *Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Wyoming:*

10

11 **Section 1.** W.S. 6-3-203(c)(ii), (iv) through (vi), by  
12 creating a new paragraph (vii), (e), (g) and (h) and  
13 35-21-105(a) by creating new paragraphs (viii) and (ix) are  
14 amended to read:

15

1           **6-3-203. Cruelty to animals; penalties; limitation on**  
2 **manner of destruction.**

3  
4           (c) A person commits aggravated cruelty to animals if  
5 he:

6  
7                   (ii) Owns, possesses, keeps or trains ~~fowls or~~  
8 ~~dogs~~an animal with the intent to allow the ~~dog or fowl~~  
9 animal to engage in an exhibition of fighting with another  
10 ~~dog or fowl~~animal;

11  
12                   (iv) For gain causes or allows any ~~dog or fowl~~  
13 animal to fight with another ~~dog or fowl~~animal;

14  
15                   (v) Knowingly permits any act prohibited under  
16 ~~paragraphs~~paragraph (ii) or (iv) of this subsection on any  
17 premises under his charge or control;~~or~~

18  
19                   (vi) Promotes any act prohibited under  
20 ~~paragraphs~~paragraph (ii) or (iv) of this subsection;~~or~~ or

21

1            (vii) Unnecessarily or cruelly beats, tortures,  
2 torments, poisons, injures, mutilates or attempts to kill  
3 an animal.

4  
5            (e) Unless punishable under subsection (n) of this  
6 section, a violation of this section is a misdemeanor  
7 punishable by imprisonment for not more than six (6)  
8 months, a fine of not more than seven hundred fifty dollars  
9 (\$750.00), or both except that a subsequent offense is a  
10 ~~high misdemeanor~~ felony punishable by not more than ~~one (1)~~  
11 ~~year~~ two (2) years imprisonment, a fine of not more than  
12 five thousand dollars (\$5,000.00), or both.

13  
14            (g) A person commits cruelty to animals if he is  
15 knowingly present at any place where an exhibition of  
16 ~~fighting of fowls or dogs~~ animal fighting is occurring for  
17 amusement or gain.

18  
19            (h) If a person convicted of a violation of this  
20 section is also the owner of the animal, the court ~~may~~  
21 shall require the person to forfeit ownership of the animal  
22 to the county in which the person is convicted. This  
23 subsection shall not affect the interest of any secured

1 party or other person who has not participated in the  
2 offense.

3

4 **35-21-105. Order of protection; contents; remedies;**  
5 **order not to affect title to property; conditions.**

6

7 (a) Upon finding that an act of domestic abuse has  
8 occurred, the court shall enter an order of protection  
9 ordering the respondent household member to refrain from  
10 abusing the petitioner or any other household member. The  
11 order shall specifically describe the behavior that the  
12 court has ordered the respondent to do or refrain from  
13 doing. As a part of any order of protection, the court may:

14

15 (viii) Grant sole possession of any household  
16 pet, as defined in W.S. 6-3-203(o), owned, possessed or  
17 kept by the petitioner, the respondent or a minor child  
18 residing in the residence or household of either the  
19 petitioner or the respondent to the petitioner during the  
20 period the order of protection is effective;

21

22 (ix) Order that the respondent shall not have  
23 contact with any household pet, as defined in W.S. 6-3-

1 203(o), in the custody of the petitioner and prohibit the  
2 respondent from abducting, removing, concealing or  
3 disposing of the animal.

4

5 **Section 2.** W.S. 6-3-203(a)(ii) is repealed.

6

7 **Section 3.** This act is effective July 1, 2017.

8

9

(END)