## House Bill 6

"An Act relating to proscribing certain sexual conduct or activities as cruelty to animals."

### **News Stories**

Registered sex offender has sex with tied-up dog, police say (The Associated Press)

Bestiality: Yes, it's a crime (Seattle PI Editorial Board)

# Registered sex offender has sex with tied-up dog, police say

KETCHIKAN: Witnesses say Lab was tied to tree and its mouth was taped shut.

The Associated Press

(04/15/08 00:14:03)

KETCHIKAN -- A 26-year-old Klawock man has been charged with two counts of criminal mischief for allegedly having sex with a tied-up dog.

Harold Simpson, a registered sex offender, is being held on a \$10,000 bond.

The charges stemmed from an alleged incident last Wednesday in the woods outside the village.

A witness told Klawock Police Officer Chris Paulson that she saw Simpson coax a white dog into the woods by a green rope and later saw the dog come running out without the rope, according to Paulson's affidavit.

The witness then said she saw Simpson coax a black Labrador retriever to come to him, tying the green rope around the dog's neck and leading it into the woods.

Two men told the officer they went looking in the woods for the dog and found a man having sex with it, according to the affidavit.

The dog was tied to the tree by a green rope, and white tape had been placed around its muzzle, Paulson's report says. He says he later recovered a green rope and white tape with black hair on it from the scene.

The Ketchikan District Attorney's office had charged Simpson with two misdemeanor counts of criminal mischief.

At an arraignment hearing Friday, Ketchikan District Attorney James Scott told Craig District Court Magistrate Kay Clark that there isn't a state law to prohibit having sex with a dog.

The state also asked for bail, a rare move for a low-level offense.

"Mr. Simpson, however, poses perhaps the greatest threat to the community of any defendant that we will see in this court, or any other in Southeast, for some time," Scott said.

According to court records, when Simpson was 16, he was convicted of twice raping a young boy. He's also serving probation for assault after lunging at a child last year.

The state's "very real concern," Scott said, is that if a small child had been available and unattended at the time and place where these dogs were taken, "that the small child would have been found taped (and) tied in the woods.

Simpson has been assigned a public defender, who did not immediately return a call Monday to The Associated Press.

#### Bestiality: Yes, it's a crime

SEATTLE POST-INTELLIGENCER EDITORIAL BOARD

It should be a no-brainer that animal cruelty laws ought to cover sex acts. But after a Seattle man's death at an Enumclaw bestiality ranch last month, it became clear that our animal cruelty laws are gutless.

In other words, welcome to Nobrainsville. The legal and regulated hunting of animals in no way grants us a carte blanche on all aspects of animal life. And arguing that animals seem to enjoy the act is a ridiculous and moot point.

If state Sen. Pam Roach, R-Auburn, wants to bring about a law protecting animals from rape, we say: Go for it, Pam. For once, we're with you.

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February 10, 2009

Alaska House Judiciary Committee Fax #907-465-2070 Juneau, Alaska

RE: HB 6

I urge you to pass this bill out of committee as soon as possible with the following changes:

- 1. Make cruelty to domestic animals a felony (first offense) with mandatory 1 year in jail and fine.
- 2. Mandate protection from inclement weather for all domestic animals including adequate heat, wholesome water, food, veterinary care, and shelter from wind, sun, precipitation, temperatures for all domestic animals to maintain the animal's optimum health, comfort and welfare.
- 3. Mandatory forfeiture of all animals owned by a person convicted of animal cruelty and mandate of non allowance to own any animals for 10 years following conviction.
- 4. Mandatory suspected animal abuse reporting by veterinarians and any government agency personnel.

Alaska ranks near the bottom of the list of states with adequate animal protection laws. Our law is archaic, inadequate and ineffective. Animal abuse is rampant in this state.

It is well documented and proven that abuse of animals often leads to abuse of children, spouses and other humans. It's time to nip in the bud this horrendous abuse and neglect of all animals.

Sincerely,

Cărol Jensen