



LAWS OF ALASKA

1980

Source

FCCSSB 514

Chapter No.

78

AN ACT

Amending criminal provisions relating to cruelty to animals, defining the crime of promoting an exhibition of fighting animals, and prohibiting the destruction of animals by the use of a decompression chamber; and providing for an effective date.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

THE ACT FOLLOWS ON PAGE 1, LINE 12

Approved by the Governor: June 12, 1980
Actual Effective Date: June 13, 1980

AN ACT

Amending criminal provisions relating to cruelty to animals, defining the crime of promoting an exhibition of fighting animals, and prohibiting the destruction of animals by the use of a decompression chamber; and providing for an effective date.

* Section 1. AS 11.61.140 is repealed and re-enacted to read:

Sec. 11.61.140. CRUELTY TO ANIMALS. (a) A person commits the crime of cruelty to animals if he

(1) intentionally inflicts severe and prolonged physical pain or suffering on an animal;

(2) recklessly neglects an animal and, as a result of that neglect, causes the death of the animal or causes severe pain or suffering to the animal; or

(3) kills an animal by the use of a decompression chamber.

(b) It is a defense to a prosecution under this section that the conduct of the defendant

(1) conformed to accepted veterinary practice;

(2) was part of scientific research governed by accepted standards; or

(3) was necessarily incident to lawful hunting or trapping activities.

(c) In this section, "animal" means a vertebrate living creature not a human being, but does not include fish.

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(d) Cruelty to animals is a class A misdemeanor.

* Sec. 2. AS 11.61 is amended by adding a new section to read:

Sec. 11.61.145. PROMOTING AN EXHIBITION OF FIGHTING ANIMALS. (a)

A person commits the crime of promoting an exhibition of fighting animals if he

(1) owns, possesses, keeps, or trains an animal with intent that it be engaged in an exhibition of fighting animals;

(2) instigates, promotes, or has a pecuniary interest in an exhibition of fighting animals; or

(3) attends an exhibition of fighting animals.

(b) The animals, equipment, vehicles, money, and other personal property used by a person in a violation of (a)(1) or (2) of this section shall be forfeited to the state if the person is convicted of an offense under this section.

(c) In this section, "animal" means a vertebrate living creature not a human being, but does not include fish.

(d) Promoting an exhibition of fighting animals

(1) under (a)(1) or (2) of this section is a class C felony;

(2) under (a)(3) of this section is a violation for the first offense and a class B misdemeanor for the second and each subsequent offense.

* Sec. 3. AS 03.60 is amended by adding a new section to read:

Sec. 03.60.005. USE OF DECOMPRESSION CHAMBER PROHIBITED.

It is unlawful for a veterinarian or other person to destroy an animal by the use of a decompression chamber.

* Sec. 4. This Act takes effect immediately in accordance with AS 01.10.070(c).