

FILED FEB 10 1998

JUDICIARY

SENATE FILE 2163  
BY SZYMONIAK

Passed Senate, Date \_\_\_\_\_ Passed House, Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Vote: Ayes \_\_\_\_\_ Nays \_\_\_\_\_ Vote: Ayes \_\_\_\_\_ Nays \_\_\_\_\_  
Approved \_\_\_\_\_

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to the penalty applicable to persons who commit  
2 animal abuse.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

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S.F. 2163

1 Section 1. Section 717B.2, unnumbered paragraph 1, Code  
2 1997, is amended to read as follows:

3 A person is guilty of animal abuse if the person  
4 intentionally injures, maims, disfigures, or destroys an  
5 animal owned by another person, in any manner, including  
6 intentionally poisoning the animal. A person guilty of animal  
7 abuse is guilty of an aggravated misdemeanor. In addition to  
8 the penalty provided under section 903.1, the court shall  
9 order a person who is convicted of a violation of this section  
10 to attend court-approved counseling sessions or a court-  
11 approved counseling program. This section shall not apply to  
12 any of the following:

13 EXPLANATION

14 This bill makes changes in the penalty applicable to animal  
15 abuse by requiring that, in addition to the penalty which is  
16 generally applicable to aggravated misdemeanors, the person  
17 must also attend and complete court-approved counseling. An  
18 aggravated misdemeanor is punishable by imprisonment not to  
19 exceed two years and a fine of at least \$500 but not more than  
20 \$5,000.

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