

House File 2104 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE 2104

BY DONAHUE

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to animal torture and providing penalties.

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

1 Section 1. Section 717B.3A, subsections 4 and 5, Code 2022,
2 are amended to read as follows:

3 4. A person who commits animal torture is guilty of an
4 ~~aggravated misdemeanor~~ a class "D" felony.

5 5. Notwithstanding subsection 4, a person who commits
6 animal torture is guilty of a class "~~D~~" "C" felony if the
7 person has previously been convicted of committing animal
8 abuse pursuant to section 717B.2, animal neglect punishable
9 as a serious misdemeanor or aggravated misdemeanor pursuant
10 to section 717B.3, animal torture pursuant to this section,
11 injury to or interference with a police service dog pursuant to
12 section 717B.9, bestiality pursuant to section 717C.1, or an
13 act involving a contest event prohibited in section 717D.2.

14 EXPLANATION

15 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with
16 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

17 This bill relates to animal torture.

18 Current law under Code section 717B.3A provides that a
19 person who commits animal torture is guilty of an aggravated
20 misdemeanor for a first offense, or a class "D" felony if the
21 person has previously been convicted of committing animal
22 abuse under Code section 717B.2, animal neglect punishable as
23 a serious misdemeanor or aggravated misdemeanor under Code
24 section 717B.3, animal torture, injury to or interference with
25 a police service dog under Code section 717B.9, bestiality
26 under Code section 717C.1, or an act involving an animal
27 contest event under Code section 717D.2.

28 The bill increases the penalty for a first offense of animal
29 torture to a class "D" felony, and to a class "C" felony if
30 the person has previously been convicted of committing animal
31 abuse, animal neglect punishable as a serious misdemeanor
32 or aggravated misdemeanor, animal torture, injury to or
33 interference with a police service dog, bestiality, or an act
34 involving an animal contest event.

35 A class "D" felony is punishable by confinement for no more

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1 than five years and a fine of at least \$1,025 but not more than
2 \$10,245. A class "C" felony is punishable by confinement for
3 no more than 10 years and a fine of at least \$1,370 but not more
4 than \$13,660.