
SENATE BILL 6128

State of Washington

68th Legislature

2024 Regular Session

By Senators Liias, Rivers, Kuderer, Lovick, Nobles, Saldaña, and Stanford

Read first time 01/10/24. Referred to Committee on Law & Justice.

1 AN ACT Relating to prohibiting the use of certain animals in
2 traveling animal acts; adding a new chapter to Title 9 RCW; and
3 prescribing penalties.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The definitions in this section apply
6 throughout this chapter unless the context clearly requires
7 otherwise.

8 (1) "Covered animal" means any of the following animals, and
9 hybrids thereof:

10 (a) The following *Artiodactyla*: Giraffe, Bactrian camel,
11 dromedary camel, and pygmy hippo;

12 (b) *Canidae*, including any hybrids thereof, but excluding
13 domestic dogs;

14 (c) The following *Elasmobranchii*: Lemon sharks, nurse sharks, and
15 rays;

16 (d) *Elephantidae*;

17 (e) *Felidae*, including any hybrids thereof, but excluding
18 domestic cats;

19 (f) The following *Marsupialia*: Kangaroo and wallaby;

20 (g) Nonhuman primate;

21 (h) Otter;

- 1 (i) The following *Procyonidae*: Coatimundi, kinkajou, and raccoon;
- 2 (j) Skunk;
- 3 (k) The following ratites: Ostrich and emu;
- 4 (l) The following *Rodentia*: Capybara and Patagonian cavy;
- 5 (m) Sea lion;
- 6 (n) Sloth;
- 7 (o) *Ursidae*;
- 8 (p) The following *Viverridae*: Binturong, civet, and genet; and
- 9 (q) Zebra.

10 (2) "Mobile or traveling housing facility" means a transporting
11 vehicle such as a truck, trailer, or railway car, used to transport
12 or house animals while traveling for exhibition or other performance.

13 (3) "Performance" means any exhibition, public showing,
14 presentation, display, exposition, fair, animal act, circus, ride,
15 trade show, petting zoo, carnival, parade, race, or similar
16 undertaking in which animals are required to perform tricks, give
17 rides, or participate as accompaniments for the entertainment,
18 amusement, or benefit of a live audience.

19 (4) "Person" means individuals, corporations, partnerships,
20 associations, or other legal entities, and agents of those entities.

21 (5) "Traveling animal act" means any performance of animals where
22 such animals are transported to, from, or between locations for the
23 purpose of such performance, in a mobile or traveling housing
24 facility.

25 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** Notwithstanding any other provision of
26 law, no person shall allow for the participation of a covered animal
27 in a traveling animal act.

28 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** This chapter shall not apply to a
29 performance that takes place at a nonmobile, permanent institution or
30 other fixed facility, provided that the covered animal is not
31 transported to such location for a period of less than 14 days for
32 the sole purpose of such performance.

33 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** A violation of this chapter is a gross
34 misdemeanor.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** A city or county may adopt an ordinance
2 governing traveling animal acts that is more restrictive than this
3 chapter.

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 6.** Sections 1 through 5 of this act
5 constitute a new chapter in Title 9 RCW.

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 7.** If any provision of this act or its
7 application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the
8 remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other
9 persons or circumstances is not affected.

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