

HB0912/443425/1

BY: Environment and Transportation Committee

AMENDMENTS TO HOUSE BILL 912
(First Reading File Bill)

AMENDMENT NO. 1

On page 1, in the sponsor line, strike “**and Terrasa**” and substitute “**Terrasa, Healey, Lewis, and Ziegler**”; in line 5, strike “a certain prohibition against abandoning” and substitute “certain provisions of law prohibiting the abandonment or certain neglect of”; in line 6, strike “does” and substitute “do”; and in line 12, after “Section” insert “10-604 and”.

AMENDMENT NO. 2

On page 1, after line 22, insert:

“10-604.

- (a) [A] SUBJECT TO SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION, A person may not:
- (1) overdrive or overload an animal;
 - (2) deprive an animal of necessary sustenance;
 - (3) inflict unnecessary suffering or pain on an animal;
 - (4) cause, procure, or authorize an act prohibited under item (1), (2), or (3) of this subsection; or
 - (5) if the person has charge or custody of an animal, as owner or otherwise, unnecessarily fail to provide the animal with:
 - (i) nutritious food in sufficient quantity;

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- (ii) necessary veterinary care;
- (iii) proper drink;
- (iv) proper air;
- (v) proper space;
- (vi) proper shelter; or
- (vii) proper protection from the weather.

(b) A PERSON WHO PROVIDES CARE TO A COMMUNITY CAT UNDER A TRAP-NEUTER-RETURN POLICY IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 1-1321 OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ARTICLE MAY NOT BE DEEMED AS HAVING CHARGE OR CUSTODY OF THE COMMUNITY CAT UNDER SUBSECTION (A)(5) OF THIS SECTION.

(C) (1) A person who violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor and on conviction is subject to imprisonment not exceeding 90 days or a fine not exceeding \$1,000 or both.

(2) As a condition of sentencing, the court may order a defendant convicted of violating this section to:

- (i) participate in and pay for psychological counseling; and
- (ii) pay, in addition to any other fines and costs, all reasonable costs incurred in removing, housing, treating, or euthanizing an animal confiscated from the defendant.

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(3) As a condition of probation, the court may prohibit a defendant from owning, possessing, or residing with an animal.

On page 3, in line 19, after “REQUIRED” insert “OR A LOCATION IS DEEMED UNSAFE FOR RETURN OF AN EARTIPPED CAT”.