

SENATE BILL NO. 582

June 30, 2021, Introduced by Senators WOJNO, POLEHANKI, BULLOCK, CHANG and ALEXANDER and referred to the Committee on Agriculture.

A bill to prohibit the conducting of research or training on dogs in a manner that causes pain and distress, and certain activities related to that research or training, by an individual employed, contracted, or otherwise directed by a public body; to prescribe civil sanctions; and to provide for the powers and duties of certain state and local governmental officers and entities.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

1 Sec. 1. As used in this act:

1 (a) "Animal control shelter" means that term as defined in
2 section 1 of 1969 PA 287, MCL 287.331.

3 (b) "Dog" means a live dog of the species *Canis lupus*
4 *familiaris*.

5 (c) "Public body" means this state, a city, village, township,
6 county, school district, public college or university, or single-
7 purpose government agency, or any other body that is created by
8 law.

9 (d) "Veterinarian" means an individual licensed to practice
10 veterinary medicine under part 188 of the public health code, 1978
11 PA 368, MCL 333.18801 to 333.18838.

12 Sec. 3. (1) Subject to subsection (3), in carrying out
13 research or training activities by a public body, an individual
14 employed by, contracted by, or otherwise directed to take action on
15 behalf of the public body shall not do either of the following:

16 (a) Conduct a research or training activity on a dog in a
17 manner that causes pain or distress.

18 (b) Breed, purchase, transport, house, feed, or maintain a dog
19 for use in a research or training activity that causes pain or
20 distress.

21 (2) For purposes of this section, a research or training
22 activity causes pain or distress in either of the following
23 circumstances:

24 (a) The research or training activity would, if it were
25 conducted, be reportable to the United States Department of
26 Agriculture under 9 CFR 2.36(b) (6) or (7).

27 (b) The research or training activity involves a procedure
28 that would, in the absence of pain relief, reasonably be expected
29 to cause more than slight or momentary pain or distress, such as

1 pain in excess of that caused by an injection or other minor
2 procedure. A procedure is considered to be a painful procedure even
3 if pain relief is administered.

4 (3) The prohibition in subsection (1) does not apply under
5 either of the following circumstances:

6 (a) If a dog owner consents to the use of his or her dog in
7 veterinary training or veterinary clinical research involving the
8 necessary treatment of an existing disease or ailment.

9 (b) The spaying or neutering of a dog by a veterinarian or
10 animal control shelter or other training or medical procedures
11 commonly performed by an animal control shelter.

12 Sec. 5. An individual who violates this act is responsible for
13 a civil fine of not less than \$1,000.00 or more than \$5,000.00 for
14 each dog that is the subject of a violation for each day that the
15 violation continues. The attorney general shall bring a civil
16 action to recover the fine described in this section, and costs and
17 fees, including attorney fees. A determination of responsibility
18 for a violation of this act does not preclude a conviction,
19 sentence, or determination of responsibility for a violation of any
20 other law of this state arising from the same conduct.