

**STATE OF MICHIGAN
96TH LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2012**

**Introduced by Senators Casperson, Booher, Brandenburg, Emmons, Gleason, Green, Hune, Jansen,
Jones, Moolenaar, Nofs, Pappageorge, Pavlov and Walker**

ENROLLED SENATE BILL No. 1236

AN ACT to amend 2000 PA 274, entitled “An act to regulate the ownership, possession, and care of certain large carnivores; to prohibit the ownership and possession of certain large carnivores; to impose fees; to prescribe the powers and duties of certain governmental entities and officials and of certain veterinarians; and to prescribe penalties and provide remedies,” by amending sections 2 and 22 (MCL 287.1102 and 287.1122).

The People of the State of Michigan enact:

Sec. 2. As used in this act:

(a) “Animal control officer” means a county animal control officer as described in sections 29a and 29b of the dog law of 1919, 1919 PA 339, MCL 287.289a and 287.289b, or a city, village, or township animal control officer as described in section 29c of the dog law of 1919, 1919 PA 339, MCL 287.289c.

(b) “Animal control shelter” or “animal protection shelter” means an animal control shelter or animal protection shelter, respectively, registered with the department under section 6 of 1969 PA 287, MCL 287.336.

(c) “Circus” means an incorporated, class C licensee that is licensed under chapter I of title 9 of the code of federal regulations, that is temporarily in this state, and that offers skilled performances by live animals, clowns, and acrobats for public entertainment. Circus does not include a person, whether or not a class C licensee, who presents a large carnivore to the public as part of a carnival or for any of the following purposes:

(i) Exhibition.

(ii) Education.

(iii) Entertainment that includes wrestling, a photography opportunity with a patron, or an activity in which the large carnivore and a patron are in close contact with each other.

(d) “Department” means the department of agriculture and rural development.

(e) “Facility” means an indoor or outdoor cage, pen, or similar enclosure where a large carnivore is kept.

(f) “Large carnivore” means either of the following:

(i) Any of the following cats of the Felidae family, whether wild or captive bred, including a hybrid cross with such a cat:

(A) A lion.

(B) A leopard, including, but not limited to, a snow leopard or clouded leopard.

(C) A jaguar.

(D) A tiger.

(E) A cougar.

(F) A panther.

(G) A cheetah.

(ii) A bear of a species that is native or nonnative to this state, whether wild or captive bred.

(g) "Law enforcement officer" means:

(i) A sheriff or sheriff's deputy.

(ii) A village or township marshal.

(iii) An officer of the police department of a city, village, or township.

(iv) An officer of the Michigan state police.

(v) A peace officer who is trained and certified under the commission on law enforcement standards act, 1965 PA 203, MCL 28.601 to 28.616.

(vi) A conservation officer appointed by the department of natural resources.

(vii) An animal control officer.

(viii) A law enforcement officer of the federal government authorized to enforce any federal law regulating animals.

(h) "Livestock" means that term as defined in section 5 of the animal industry act, 1988 PA 466, MCL 287.705.

(i) "Local unit" means a city, village, township, or county.

(j) "Permit" means a permit issued under section 4.

(k) "Permitting agency" means the agency of a local unit that issues permits under section 4.

(l) "Person" means an individual, partnership, corporation, association, governmental entity, or other legal entity.

(m) "Pet shop" means a pet shop licensed by the department under section 3 of 1969 PA 287, MCL 287.333.

(n) "Veterinarian" means a person licensed to practice veterinary medicine under article 15 of the public health code, 1978 PA 368, MCL 333.16101 to 333.18838.

Sec. 22. (1) Sections 4, 5, and 6 do not apply to any of the following:

(a) An animal control shelter or animal protection shelter temporarily in possession of a large carnivore for not more than 45 days.

(b) A person licensed or approved by the department of natural resources of this state or by the United States fish and wildlife service of the United States department of the interior. This subdivision does not apply to a person in possession of 1 or more black bears under the authority of a permit to hold wildlife in captivity issued by the department of natural resources.

(c) A law enforcement officer acting under the authority of this act.

(d) A veterinarian temporarily in possession of a large carnivore to provide veterinary care for or humanely euthanize the large carnivore.

(2) Sections 4, 5, 6(1)(d) to (5)(d), 8, and 14(3) do not apply to a person who is not a resident of this state and who is in this state only for the purpose of travel between locations outside of this state.

(3) Sections 3, 4, and 6 do not apply to a person who meets all of the following requirements:

(a) Is conducting a for-profit or nonprofit business, if the primary purpose of that business is the presentation of animals including large carnivores to the public for education, exhibition, or conservation purposes.

(b) Is a class A licensee or class C licensee that possesses and maintains a class A license or class C license under 9 CFR 1.1, registers annually with the department at no cost, and is approved or accredited by 1 of the following:

(i) A zoological park approved or accredited by the American zoo and aquarium association or by the zoological association of America.

(ii) A person approved by the American sanctuary association.

(c) Meets or exceeds all standards, including but not limited to standards for training, housing, care, and transport of large carnivores, required of a class A licensee or class C licensee under 9 CFR 1.1.

(d) Does not allow a patron to do any of the following:

(i) Come into direct contact with a large carnivore other than a bear less than 36 weeks of age and weighing 90 pounds or less.

(ii) Come into close enough contact with a large carnivore over 20 weeks of age, other than a bear less than 36 weeks of age and weighing 90 pounds or less, so as to place the patron in jeopardy of being harmed by the large carnivore.

(e) Does not sell large carnivores, except to another person that meets the requirements of this subsection.

(f) Only breeds large carnivores if approved or accredited by the American zoo and aquarium association or by the zoological association of America.

(4) This act does not apply to a circus.

This act is ordered to take immediate effect.

Carol Morey Viventi

Secretary of the Senate

Sam E. Randall

Clerk of the House of Representatives

Approved

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Governor