

**SUBSTITUTE FOR  
HOUSE BILL NO. 4755**

A bill to amend 1931 PA 328, entitled  
"The Michigan penal code,"  
by amending sections 49, 50, and 50b (MCL 750.49, 750.50, and  
750.50b), section 49 as amended by 2006 PA 129, section 50 as  
amended by 2007 PA 152, and section 50b as amended by 2008 PA 339.

**THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:**

1           Sec. 49. (1) As used in this section, "animal" means a  
2 vertebrate other than a human **BEING**.

3           (2) A person shall not knowingly do any of the following:

4           (a) Own, possess, use, buy, sell, offer to buy or sell,  
5 import, or export an animal for fighting or baiting, or as a target  
6 to be shot at as a test of skill in marksmanship.

7           (b) Be a party to or cause the fighting, baiting, or shooting

1 of an animal as described in subdivision (a).

2 (c) Rent or otherwise obtain the use of a building, shed,  
3 room, yard, ground, or premises for fighting, baiting, or shooting  
4 an animal as described in subdivision (a).

5 (d) Permit the use of a building, shed, room, yard, ground, or  
6 premises belonging to him or her or under his or her control for  
7 any of the purposes described in this section.

8 (e) Organize, promote, or collect money for the fighting,  
9 baiting, or shooting of an animal as described in subdivisions (a)  
10 to (d).

11 (f) Be present at a building, shed, room, yard, ground, or  
12 premises where preparations are being made for an exhibition  
13 described in subdivisions (a) to (d), or be present at the  
14 exhibition, knowing that an exhibition is taking place or about to  
15 take place.

16 (g) Breed, buy, sell, offer to buy or sell, exchange, import,  
17 or export an animal the person knows has been trained or used for  
18 fighting as described in subdivisions (a) to (d), or breed, buy,  
19 sell, offer to buy or sell, exchange, import, or export the  
20 offspring of an animal the person knows has been trained or used  
21 for fighting as described in subdivisions (a) to (d). This  
22 subdivision does not prohibit owning, breeding, buying, selling,  
23 offering to buy or sell, exchanging, importing, or exporting an  
24 animal for agricultural or agricultural exposition purposes.

25 (h) Own, possess, use, buy, sell, offer to buy or sell,  
26 transport, or deliver any device or equipment intended for use in  
27 the fighting, baiting, or shooting of an animal as described in

1 subdivisions (a) to (d).

2 (3) A person who violates subsection (2)(a) to (e) is guilty  
3 of a felony punishable by 1 or more of the following:

4 (a) Imprisonment for not more than 4 years.

5 (b) A fine of not less than \$5,000.00 or more than \$50,000.00.

6 (c) Not less than 500 or more than 1,000 hours of community  
7 service.

8 (4) A person who violates subsection (2)(f) to (h) is guilty  
9 of a felony punishable by 1 or more of the following:

10 (a) Imprisonment for not more than 4 years.

11 (b) A fine of not less than \$1,000.00 or more than \$5,000.00.

12 (c) Not less than 250 or more than 500 hours of community  
13 service.

14 (5) The court may order a person convicted of violating this  
15 section to pay the costs of prosecution.

16 (6) The court may order a person convicted of violating this  
17 section to pay the costs for housing and caring for the animal,  
18 including, but not limited to, providing veterinary medical  
19 treatment.

20 (7) ~~As~~ **EXCEPT AS OTHERWISE PROVIDED IN THIS SUBSECTION, AS**  
21 part of the sentence for a violation of subsection (2), the court  
22 shall order the person convicted not to own or possess an animal ~~of~~  
23 ~~the same species involved in the violation of this section for~~ **A**  
24 **PERIOD OF AT LEAST** 5 years after the date of sentencing **OR THE DATE**  
25 **OF RELEASE FROM INCARCERATION, WHICHEVER IS LATER. THE COURT SHALL**  
26 **NOT ORDER THE PERSON CONVICTED NOT TO OWN OR POSSESS LIVESTOCK**  
27 **UNLESS LIVESTOCK WAS INVOLVED IN THE VIOLATION OF THIS SECTION. IF**

1 LIVESTOCK WAS INVOLVED IN THE VIOLATION OF THIS SECTION, THE COURT  
2 SHALL ORDER THE PERSON CONVICTED NOT TO OWN OR POSSESS LIVESTOCK  
3 FOR ANY PERIOD OF TIME DETERMINED BY THE COURT. Failure to comply  
4 with the order of the court pursuant to this subsection is  
5 punishable as contempt of court.

6 (8) If a person incites an animal trained or used for fighting  
7 or an animal that is the first or second generation offspring of an  
8 animal trained or used for fighting to attack a person and ~~thereby~~  
9 **THAT ATTACK** causes the death of that person, the owner is guilty of  
10 a felony punishable by imprisonment for life or for a term of years  
11 greater than 15 years.

12 (9) If a person incites an animal trained or used for fighting  
13 or an animal that is the first or second generation offspring of an  
14 animal trained or used for fighting to attack a person, but the  
15 attack does not result in the death of the person, the owner is  
16 guilty of a felony punishable by imprisonment for not more than 4  
17 years or a fine of not more than \$2,000.00, or both.

18 (10) If an animal trained or used for fighting or an animal  
19 that is the first or second generation offspring of an animal  
20 trained or used for fighting attacks a person without provocation  
21 and causes the death of that person, the owner of the animal is  
22 guilty of a felony punishable by imprisonment for not more than 15  
23 years.

24 (11) If an animal trained or used for fighting or an animal  
25 that is the first or second generation offspring of an animal  
26 trained or used for fighting attacks a person without provocation,  
27 but the attack does not cause the death of the person, the owner is

1 guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment for not more  
2 than 1 year or a fine of not more than \$1,000.00, or both.

3 (12) Subsections (8) to (11) do not apply if the person  
4 attacked was committing or attempting to commit an unlawful act on  
5 the property of the owner of the animal.

6 (13) If an animal trained or used for fighting or an animal  
7 that is the first or second generation offspring of a dog trained  
8 or used for fighting goes beyond the property limits of its owner  
9 without being securely restrained, the owner is guilty of a  
10 misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment for not more than 90 days or  
11 a fine of not less than \$50.00 nor more than \$500.00, or both.

12 (14) If an animal trained or used for fighting or an animal  
13 that is the first or second generation offspring of a dog trained  
14 or used for fighting is not securely enclosed or restrained on the  
15 owner's property, the owner is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable  
16 by imprisonment for not more than 90 days or a fine of not more  
17 than \$500.00, or both.

18 (15) Subsections (8) to (14) do not apply to any of the  
19 following:

20 (a) A dog trained or used for fighting, or the first or second  
21 generation offspring of a dog trained or used for fighting, that is  
22 used by a law enforcement agency of ~~the~~**THIS** state or a county,  
23 city, village, or township.

24 (b) A certified leader dog recognized and trained by a  
25 national guide dog association for the blind or for persons with  
26 disabilities.

27 (c) A corporation licensed under the private security business

1 and security alarm act, 1968 PA 330, MCL 338.1051 to ~~338.1083,~~  
2 **338.1092**, when a dog trained or used for fighting, or the first or  
3 second generation offspring of a dog trained or used for fighting,  
4 is used in accordance with the private security business and  
5 security alarm act, 1968 PA 330, MCL 338.1051 to ~~338.1083-338.1092.~~

6 (16) An animal that has been used to fight in violation of  
7 this section or that is involved in a violation of subsections (8)  
8 to (14) shall be confiscated as contraband by a law enforcement  
9 officer and shall not be returned to the owner, trainer, or  
10 possessor of the animal. The animal shall be taken to a local  
11 humane society or other animal welfare agency. If an animal owner,  
12 trainer, or possessor is convicted of violating subsection (2) or  
13 subsections (8) to (14), the court shall award the animal involved  
14 in the violation to the local humane society or other animal  
15 welfare agency.

16 (17) Upon receiving an animal confiscated under this section,  
17 or at any time thereafter, an appointed veterinarian, the humane  
18 society, or other animal welfare agency may humanely euthanize the  
19 animal if, in the opinion of that veterinarian, humane society, or  
20 other animal welfare agency, the animal is injured or diseased past  
21 recovery or the animal's continued existence is inhumane so that  
22 euthanasia is necessary to relieve pain and suffering.

23 (18) A humane society or other animal welfare agency that  
24 receives an animal under this section shall apply to the district  
25 court or municipal court for a hearing to determine whether the  
26 animal shall be humanely euthanized because of its lack of any  
27 useful purpose and the public safety threat it poses. The court

1 shall hold a hearing not more than 30 days after the filing of the  
2 application and shall give notice of the hearing to the owner of  
3 the animal. Upon a finding by the court that the animal lacks any  
4 useful purpose and poses a threat to public safety, the humane  
5 society or other animal welfare agency shall humanely euthanize the  
6 animal. Expenses incurred in connection with the housing, care,  
7 upkeep, or euthanasia of the animal by a humane society or other  
8 animal welfare agency, or by a person, firm, partnership,  
9 corporation, or other entity, shall be assessed against the owner  
10 of the animal.

11 (19) Subject to subsections (16) to (18), all animals being  
12 used or to be used in fighting, equipment, devices and money  
13 involved in a violation of subsection (2) shall be forfeited to ~~the~~  
14 **THIS** state. All other instrumentalities, proceeds, and substituted  
15 proceeds of a violation of subsection (2) are subject to forfeiture  
16 under chapter 47 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA  
17 236, MCL 600.4701 to 600.4709.

18 (20) The seizing agency may deposit money seized under  
19 subsection (19) into an interest-bearing account in a financial  
20 institution. As used in this subsection, "financial institution"  
21 means a state or nationally chartered bank or a state or federally  
22 chartered savings and loan association, savings bank, or credit  
23 union whose deposits are insured by an agency of the United States  
24 government and that maintains a principal office or branch office  
25 located in this state under the laws of this state or the United  
26 States.

27 (21) An attorney for a person who is charged with a violation

1 of subsection (2) involving or related to money seized under  
2 subsection (19) shall be afforded a period of 60 days within which  
3 to examine that money. This 60-day period shall begin to run after  
4 notice of forfeiture is given but before the money is deposited  
5 into a financial institution under subsection (20). If the attorney  
6 general, prosecuting attorney, or city or township attorney fails  
7 to sustain his or her burden of proof in forfeiture proceedings  
8 under subsection (19), the court shall order the return of the  
9 money, including any interest earned on money deposited into a  
10 financial institution under subsection (20).

11 (22) This section does not apply to conduct that is permitted  
12 by and is in compliance with any of the following:

13 (a) Part 401 of the natural resources and environmental  
14 protection act, 1994 PA 451, MCL 324.40101 to ~~324.40119~~.**324.40120.**

15 (b) Part 435 of the natural resources and environmental  
16 protection act, 1994 PA 451, MCL 324.43501 to 324.43561.

17 (c) Part 427 of the natural resources and environmental  
18 protection act, 1994 PA 451, MCL 324.42701 to 324.42714.

19 (d) Part 417 of the natural resources and environmental  
20 protection act, 1994 PA 451, MCL 324.41701 to 324.41712.

21 (23) This section does not prohibit a person from being  
22 charged with, convicted of, or punished for any other violation of  
23 law that is committed by that person while violating this section.

24 Sec. 50. (1) As used in this section and section 50b:

25 (a) "Adequate care" means the provision of sufficient food,  
26 water, shelter, sanitary conditions, exercise, and veterinary  
27 medical attention in order to maintain an animal in a state of good



1 health.

2 (b) "Animal" means ~~any~~**A** vertebrate other than a human being.

3 (c) "Animal protection shelter" means a facility operated by a  
4 person, humane society, society for the prevention of cruelty to  
5 animals, or any other nonprofit organization, for the care of  
6 homeless animals.

7 (d) "Animal control shelter" means a facility operated by a  
8 county, city, village, or township to impound and care for animals  
9 found in streets or otherwise at large contrary to any ordinance of  
10 the county, city, village, or township or state law.

11 (e) "Licensed veterinarian" means a person licensed to  
12 practice veterinary medicine under article 15 of the public health  
13 code, 1978 PA 368, MCL 333.16101 to 333.18838.

14 (f) "Livestock" means that term as defined in the animal  
15 industry act, ~~of 1987,~~ 1988 PA 466, MCL 287.701 to ~~287.747-~~**287.746**.

16 (g) "Person" means an individual, partnership, limited  
17 liability company, corporation, association, governmental entity,  
18 or other legal entity.

19 (h) "Neglect" means to fail to sufficiently and properly care  
20 for an animal to the extent that the animal's health is  
21 jeopardized.

22 (i) "Sanitary conditions" means space free from health hazards  
23 including excessive animal waste, overcrowding of animals, or other  
24 conditions that endanger the animal's health. This definition does  
25 not include any condition resulting from a customary and reasonable  
26 practice pursuant to farming or animal husbandry.

27 (j) "Shelter" means adequate protection from the elements and

1 weather conditions suitable for the age, species, and physical  
2 condition of the animal so as to maintain the animal in a state of  
3 good health. Shelter, for livestock, includes structures or natural  
4 features such as trees or topography. Shelter, for a dog, includes  
5 1 or more of the following:

6 (i) The residence of the dog's owner or other individual.

7 (ii) A doghouse that is an enclosed structure with a roof and  
8 of appropriate dimensions for the breed and size of the dog. The  
9 doghouse shall have dry bedding when the outdoor temperature is or  
10 is predicted to drop below freezing.

11 (iii) A structure, including a garage, barn, or shed, that is  
12 sufficiently insulated and ventilated to protect the dog from  
13 exposure to extreme temperatures or, if not sufficiently insulated  
14 and ventilated, contains a doghouse as provided under subparagraph  
15 (ii) that is accessible to the dog.

16 (k) "State of good health" means freedom from disease and  
17 illness, and in a condition of proper body weight and temperature  
18 for the age and species of the animal, unless the animal is  
19 undergoing appropriate treatment.

20 (l) "Tethering" means the restraint and confinement of a dog by  
21 use of a chain, rope, or similar device.

22 (m) "Water" means potable water that is suitable for the age  
23 and species of animal that is made regularly available unless  
24 otherwise directed by a licensed veterinarian.

25 (2) An owner, possessor, or person ~~having~~ **WHO HAS** the charge  
26 or custody of an animal shall not do any of the following:

27 (a) Fail to provide an animal with adequate care.

1 (b) Cruelly drive, work, or beat an animal, or cause an animal  
2 to be cruelly driven, worked, or beaten.

3 (c) Carry or cause to be carried in or upon a vehicle or  
4 otherwise any live animal ~~having the~~ **WITH ITS** feet or legs tied  
5 together, other than an animal being transported for medical care,  
6 or a horse whose feet are hobbled to protect the horse during  
7 transport, or in any other cruel and inhumane manner.

8 (d) Carry or cause to be carried a live animal in or upon a  
9 vehicle or otherwise without providing a secure space, rack, car,  
10 crate, or cage, in which livestock may stand, and in which all  
11 other animals may stand, turn around, and lie down during  
12 transportation, or while awaiting slaughter. As used in this  
13 subdivision, for purposes of transportation of sled dogs, "stand"  
14 means sufficient vertical distance to allow the animal to stand  
15 without its shoulders touching the top of the crate or  
16 transportation vehicle.

17 (e) Abandon an animal or cause an animal to be abandoned, in  
18 any place, without making provisions for the animal's adequate  
19 care, unless premises are vacated for the protection of human life  
20 or the prevention of injury to a human. An animal that is lost by  
21 an owner or custodian while traveling, walking, hiking, or hunting  
22 is not abandoned under this section ~~when~~ **IF** the owner or custodian  
23 has made a reasonable effort to locate the animal.

24 (f) Negligently allow any animal, including one who is aged,  
25 diseased, maimed, hopelessly sick, disabled, or nonambulatory to  
26 suffer unnecessary neglect, torture, or pain.

27 (g) Tether a dog unless the tether is at least 3 times the

1 length of the dog as measured from the tip of its nose to the base  
2 of its tail and is attached to a harness or nonchoke collar  
3 designed for tethering.

4 (3) If an animal is impounded and is being held by an animal  
5 control shelter or its designee or an animal protection shelter or  
6 its designee or a licensed veterinarian pending the outcome of a  
7 criminal action charging a violation of this section or section  
8 50b, before final disposition of the criminal charge, the  
9 prosecuting attorney may file a civil action in the court that has  
10 jurisdiction of the criminal action, requesting that the court  
11 issue an order forfeiting the animal to the animal control shelter  
12 or animal protection shelter or to a licensed veterinarian before  
13 final disposition of the criminal charge. The prosecuting attorney  
14 shall serve a true copy of the summons and complaint upon the  
15 defendant and upon a person with a known ownership **OR SECURITY**  
16 ~~interest or known security interest~~ in the animal or a person who  
17 has filed a lien with the secretary of state in an animal involved  
18 in the pending action. The forfeiture of an animal under this  
19 section encumbered by a security interest is subject to the  
20 interest of the holder of the security interest who did not have  
21 prior knowledge of ~~—~~or consent to the commission of the crime.  
22 Upon the filing of the civil action, the court shall set a hearing  
23 on the complaint. The hearing shall be conducted within 14 days of  
24 the filing of the civil action, or as soon as practicable. The  
25 hearing shall be before a judge without a jury. At the hearing, the  
26 prosecuting attorney has the burden of establishing by a  
27 preponderance of the evidence that a violation of this section or

1 section 50b occurred. If the court finds that the prosecuting  
2 attorney has met this burden, the court shall order immediate  
3 forfeiture of the animal to the animal control shelter or animal  
4 protection shelter or the licensed veterinarian unless the  
5 defendant, within 72 hours of the hearing, submits to the court  
6 clerk cash or other form of security in an amount determined by the  
7 court to be sufficient to repay all reasonable costs incurred, and  
8 anticipated to be incurred, by the animal control shelter or animal  
9 protection shelter or the licensed veterinarian in caring for the  
10 animal from the date of initial impoundment to the date of trial.  
11 If cash or other security has been submitted, and the trial in the  
12 action is continued at a later date, any order of continuance shall  
13 require the defendant to submit additional cash or security in an  
14 amount determined by the court to be sufficient to repay all  
15 additional reasonable costs anticipated to be incurred by the  
16 animal control shelter or animal protection shelter or the licensed  
17 veterinarian in caring for the animal until the new date of trial.  
18 If the defendant submits cash or other security to the court under  
19 this subsection the court may enter an order authorizing the use of  
20 that money or other security before final disposition of the  
21 criminal charges to pay the reasonable costs incurred by the animal  
22 control shelter or animal protection shelter or the licensed  
23 veterinarian in caring for the animal from the date of impoundment  
24 to the date of final disposition of the criminal charges. The  
25 testimony of a person at a hearing held under this subsection is  
26 not admissible against him or her in any criminal proceeding except  
27 in a criminal prosecution for perjury. The testimony of a person at

1 a hearing held under this subsection does not waive the person's  
2 constitutional right against self-incrimination. An animal seized  
3 under this section or section 50b is not subject to any other civil  
4 action pending the final judgment of the forfeiture action under  
5 this subsection.

6 (4) A person who violates subsection (2) is guilty of a crime  
7 as follows:

8 (a) Except as otherwise provided in subdivisions (c) and (d),  
9 if the violation involved 1 animal, the person is guilty of a  
10 misdemeanor punishable by 1 or more of the following and may be  
11 ordered to pay the costs of prosecution:

12 (i) Imprisonment for not more than 93 days.

13 (ii) A fine of not more than \$1,000.00.

14 (iii) Community service for not more than 200 hours.

15 (b) Except as otherwise provided in subdivisions (c) and (d),  
16 if the violation involved 2 or 3 animals or the death of any  
17 animal, the person is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by 1 or  
18 more of the following and may be ordered to pay the costs of  
19 prosecution:

20 (i) Imprisonment for not more than 1 year.

21 (ii) A fine of not more than \$2,000.00.

22 (iii) Community service for not more than 300 hours.

23 (c) If the violation involved 4 or more animals but fewer than  
24 10 animals or the person had 1 prior conviction under subsection  
25 (2), the person is guilty of a felony punishable by 1 or more of  
26 the following and may be ordered to pay the costs of prosecution:

27 (i) Imprisonment for not more than 2 years.

1           (ii) A fine of not more than \$2,000.00.

2           (iii) Community service for not more than 300 hours.

3           (d) If the violation involved 10 or more animals or the person  
4 had 2 or more prior convictions for violating subsection (2), the  
5 person is guilty of a felony punishable by 1 or more of the  
6 following and may be ordered to pay the costs of prosecution:

7           (i) Imprisonment for not more than 4 years.

8           (ii) A fine of not more than \$5,000.00.

9           (iii) Community service for not more than 500 hours.

10          (5) The court may order a person convicted of violating  
11 subsection (2) to be evaluated to determine the need for  
12 psychiatric or psychological counseling and, if determined  
13 appropriate by the court, to receive psychiatric or psychological  
14 counseling. The evaluation and counseling shall be at the  
15 defendant's own expense.

16          (6) This section does not prohibit a person from being charged  
17 with, convicted of, or punished for any other violation of law  
18 arising out of the same transaction as ~~the~~**A** violation of this  
19 section.

20          (7) The court may order a term of imprisonment imposed for a  
21 violation of this section to be served consecutively to a term of  
22 imprisonment imposed for any other crime including any other  
23 violation of law arising out of the same transaction as the  
24 violation of this section.

25          (8) As a part of the sentence for a violation of subsection  
26 (2), the court may order the defendant to pay the costs of the  
27 care, housing, and veterinary medical care for the animal, as

1 applicable. If the court does not order a defendant to pay all of  
2 the applicable costs listed in this subsection, or orders only  
3 partial payment of these costs, the court shall state on the record  
4 the reason for that action.

5 (9) ~~As~~ **EXCEPT AS OTHERWISE PROVIDED IN THIS SUBSECTION, AS** a  
6 part of the sentence for a violation of subsection (2), the court  
7 ~~may~~, **SHALL**, as a condition of probation, order the defendant not to  
8 own or possess an animal for a period of time not to exceed the  
9 period of probation. ~~If~~ **EXCEPT AS OTHERWISE PROVIDED IN THIS**  
10 **SUBSECTION, IF** a person is convicted of a second or subsequent  
11 violation of subsection (2), the court ~~may~~ **SHALL** order the  
12 defendant not to own or possess an animal for ~~any~~ **A** period of time  
13 **AT LEAST 5 YEARS AFTER THE DATE OF SENTENCING OR THE DATE OF**  
14 **RELEASE FROM INCARCERATION, WHICHEVER IS LATER, including** ~~AND~~ **MAY**  
15 **ORDER** permanent relinquishment of animal ownership. **THE COURT SHALL**  
16 **NOT ORDER THE PERSON CONVICTED NOT TO OWN OR POSSESS LIVESTOCK**  
17 **UNLESS LIVESTOCK WAS INVOLVED IN THE VIOLATION OF THIS SECTION. IF**  
18 **LIVESTOCK WAS INVOLVED IN THE VIOLATION OF THIS SECTION, THE COURT**  
19 **SHALL ORDER THE PERSON CONVICTED NOT TO OWN OR POSSESS LIVESTOCK**  
20 **FOR ANY PERIOD OF TIME DETERMINED BY THE COURT.**

21 (10) A person who owns or possesses an animal in violation of  
22 an order issued under subsection (9) is subject to revocation of  
23 probation if the order is issued as a condition of probation. A  
24 person who owns or possesses an animal in violation of an order  
25 issued under subsection (9) is also subject to the civil and  
26 criminal contempt power of the court, and if found guilty of  
27 criminal contempt, may be punished by imprisonment for not more



1 than 90 days, or by a fine of not more than \$500.00, or both.

2 (11) This section does not prohibit the lawful killing or  
3 other use of an animal, including the following:

4 (a) Fishing.

5 (b) Hunting, trapping, or wildlife control regulated under the  
6 natural resources and environmental protection act, 1994 PA 451,  
7 MCL 324.101 to 324.90106.

8 (c) Horse racing.

9 (d) The operation of a zoological park or aquarium.

10 (e) Pest or rodent control regulated under part 83 of the  
11 natural resources and environmental protection act, 1994 PA 451,  
12 MCL 324.8301 to 324.8336.

13 (f) Farming or a generally accepted animal husbandry or  
14 farming practice involving livestock.

15 (g) Activities authorized under rules promulgated under  
16 section 9 of the executive organization act of 1965, 1965 PA 380,  
17 MCL 16.109.

18 (h) Scientific research under 1969 PA 224, MCL 287.381 to  
19 287.395.

20 (i) Scientific research under sections 2226, 2671, 2676, and  
21 7333 of the public health code, 1978 PA 368, MCL 333.2226,  
22 333.2671, 333.2676, and 333.7333.

23 (12) This section does not apply to a veterinarian or a  
24 veterinary technician lawfully engaging in the practice of  
25 veterinary medicine under part 188 of the public health code, 1978  
26 PA 368, MCL 333.18801 to 333.18838.

27 Sec. 50b. (1) As used in this section, "animal" means ~~any~~**A**

1 vertebrate other than a human being.

2 (2) Except as otherwise provided in this section, a person  
3 shall not do any of the following without just cause:

4 (a) Knowingly kill, torture, mutilate, maim, or disfigure an  
5 animal.

6 (b) Commit a reckless act knowing or having reason to know  
7 that the act will cause an animal to be killed, tortured,  
8 mutilated, maimed, or disfigured.

9 (c) Knowingly administer poison to an animal, or knowingly  
10 expose an animal to any poisonous substance, with the intent that  
11 the substance be taken or swallowed by the animal.

12 (3) A person who violates subsection (2) is guilty of a felony  
13 punishable by 1 or more of the following:

14 (a) Imprisonment for not more than 4 years.

15 (b) A fine of not more than \$5,000.00 for a single animal and  
16 \$2,500.00 for each additional animal involved in the violation, but  
17 not to exceed a total of \$20,000.00.

18 (c) Community service for not more than 500 hours.

19 (4) As a part of the sentence for a violation of subsection  
20 (2), the court may order the defendant to pay the costs of the  
21 prosecution and the costs of the care, housing, and veterinary  
22 medical care for the impacted animal victim, as applicable. If the  
23 court does not order a defendant to pay all of the applicable costs  
24 listed in this subsection, or orders only partial payment of these  
25 costs, the court shall state on the record the reasons for that  
26 action.

27 (5) If a term of probation is ordered for a violation of

1 subsection (2), the court may include as a condition of that  
2 probation that the defendant be evaluated to determine the need for  
3 psychiatric or psychological counseling and, if determined  
4 appropriate by the court, to receive psychiatric or psychological  
5 counseling at his or her own expense.

6 (6) ~~As~~ **EXCEPT AS OTHERWISE PROVIDED IN THIS SUBSECTION, AS** a  
7 part of the sentence for a violation of subsection (2), the court  
8 ~~may~~ **SHALL** order the defendant not to own or possess an animal for  
9 ~~any~~ **A** period of ~~time determined by the court,~~ **AT LEAST 5 YEARS**  
10 **AFTER THE DATE OF SENTENCING OR THE DATE OF RELEASE FROM**  
11 **INCARCERATION, WHICHEVER IS LATER, which** ~~AND may include~~ **ORDER**  
12 permanent relinquishment **OF ANIMAL OWNERSHIP. THE COURT SHALL NOT**  
13 **ORDER THE PERSON CONVICTED NOT TO OWN OR POSSESS LIVESTOCK UNLESS**  
14 **LIVESTOCK WAS INVOLVED IN THE VIOLATION OF THIS SECTION. IF**  
15 **LIVESTOCK WAS INVOLVED IN THE VIOLATION OF THIS SECTION, THE COURT**  
16 **SHALL ORDER THE PERSON CONVICTED NOT TO OWN OR POSSESS LIVESTOCK**  
17 **FOR ANY PERIOD OF TIME DETERMINED BY THE COURT.**

18 (7) A person who owns or possesses an animal in violation of  
19 an order issued under subsection (6) is subject to revocation of  
20 probation if the order is issued as a condition of probation. A  
21 person who owns or possesses an animal in violation of an order  
22 issued under subsection (6) is also subject to the civil and  
23 criminal contempt power of the court and, if found guilty of  
24 criminal contempt, may be punished by imprisonment for not more  
25 than 90 days or a fine of not more than \$500.00, or both.

26 (8) This section does not prohibit the lawful killing of  
27 livestock or a customary animal husbandry or farming practice

1 involving livestock. ~~As used in this subsection, "livestock" means~~  
2 ~~that term as defined in section 5 of the animal industry act, 1988~~  
3 ~~PA 466, MCL 287.705.~~

4 (9) This section does not prohibit the lawful killing of an  
5 animal pursuant to any of the following:

6 (a) Fishing.

7 (b) Hunting, trapping, or wildlife control regulated under the  
8 natural resources and environmental protection act, 1994 PA 451,  
9 MCL 324.101 to 324.90106, and orders issued under that act.

10 (c) Pest or rodent control regulated under part 83 of the  
11 natural resources and environmental protection act, 1994 PA 451,  
12 MCL 324.8301 to 324.8336.

13 (d) Activities authorized under rules promulgated under  
14 section 9 of the executive organization act of 1965, 1965 PA 380,  
15 MCL 16.109.

16 (e) Section 19 of the dog law of 1919, 1919 PA 339, MCL  
17 287.279.

18 (10) This section does not prohibit the lawful killing or use  
19 of an animal for scientific research under any of the following or  
20 a rule promulgated under any of the following:

21 (a) 1969 PA 224, MCL 287.381 to 287.395.

22 (b) Sections 2226, 2671, 2676, ~~7109,~~ and 7333 of the public  
23 health code, 1978 PA 368, MCL 333.2226, 333.2671, 333.2676,  
24 ~~333.7109,~~ and 333.7333.

25 (11) This section does not apply to a veterinarian or a  
26 veterinary technician lawfully engaging in the practice of  
27 veterinary medicine under part 188 of the public health code, 1978

1 PA 368, MCL 333.18801 to 333.18838.