

1 HB134
2 197848-1
3 By Representative Sorrell
4 RFD: Agriculture and Forestry
5 First Read: 04-FEB-20

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8 SYNOPSIS: Under existing law, a person commits the
9 crime of cruelty to a dog or cat in the second
10 degree if he or she deprives the animal of
11 necessary shelter.

12 This bill would provide a specific
13 definition of the shelter required.

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15 A BILL
16 TO BE ENTITLED
17 AN ACT

18
19 Relating to animals; to amend Section 13A-11-240,
20 Code of Alabama 1975, relating to definitions for animal
21 cruelty laws, to provide a definition of shelter.

22 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

23 Section 1. Section 13A-11-240, Code of Alabama 1975,
24 is amended to read as follows:

25 "§13A-11-240.

26 "(a) The word "torture" as used in this article
27 shall mean the act of doing physical injury to a dog or cat by

1 the infliction of inhumane treatment or gross physical abuse
2 meant to cause ~~said animal~~ the dog or cat intensive or
3 prolonged pain or serious physical injury, or thereby causing
4 the death of the dog or cat due to ~~said~~ the act.

5 "(b) The word "cruel" as used in this article shall
6 mean: ~~Every~~ every act, omission, or neglect, including
7 abandonment, where unnecessary or unjustifiable pain or
8 suffering, including abandonment, is caused or where
9 unnecessary pain or suffering is allowed to continue.

10 "(c) The words "dog or cat" as used in this article
11 shall mean any domesticated member of the dog or cat family.

12 "(d) The word "shelter" as used in this article
13 shall mean a measure by which a dog or cat regularly
14 maintained outdoors is reasonably protected from the elements,
15 including heat, cold, wind, and water. The measure shall have
16 a roof, sides, and be of a size to allow the animal to enter,
17 turn around, and lie down."

18 Section 2. This act shall become effective
19 immediately following its passage and approval by the
20 Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.