



ARIZONA STATE SENATE
Fifty-Sixth Legislature, Second Regular Session

FACT SHEET FOR H.B. 2241

bestiality; visual depictions; minors

Purpose

Expands the criminal classification of *bestiality* to include visual depictions of a real person engaging in outlined sexual activity with a real animal.

Background

A person commits *bestiality* by knowingly: 1) engaging in oral sexual contact, sexual contact or sexual intercourse with an animal; or 2) causing another person to engage in oral sexual contact, sexual contact or sexual intercourse with an animal. *Bestiality* is a class 6 felony, unless the offense involved causing a minor under 15 years old to engage in outlined sexual activity with an animal, in which case it is a class 3 felony punishable as a dangerous crime against children. In addition to any other penalty imposed, the court may order that the convicted person undergo a psychological assessment and participate in appropriate counseling at their own expense, and order the person to reimburse an animal shelter for any reasonable costs incurred for the care of any animal taken to the shelter as a result of the misconduct ([A.R.S. § 13-1411](#)).

There is no anticipated fiscal impact to the state General Fund associated with this legislation.

Provisions

1. Expands the criminal classification of *bestiality* to include possessing, distributing, transporting, exhibiting, receiving, selling, purchasing, electronically transmitting, possessing or exchanging any visual depiction in which a real person is actually engaging in oral sexual contact, sexual contact or sexual intercourse with a real animal.
2. Classifies a violation of *bestiality* in this manner as a class 1 misdemeanor.
3. Makes technical changes.
4. Becomes effective on the general effective date.

House Action

JUD	1/24/24	DPA	5-3-0-1
3 rd Read	2/27/24		43-15-1-0-1

Prepared by Senate Research
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 ZD/cs