

1 S.230

2 Introduced by Senator Giard

3 Referred to Committee on

4 Date:

5 Subject: Agriculture; humane slaughter of livestock

6 Statement of purpose: This bill proposes to require that a representative of the
7 Vermont humane society be present when livestock are bled or slaughtered,
8 and to report and increase penalties for violations of the humane slaughter
9 rules.

10 An act relating to humane slaughter of livestock

11 It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

12 Sec. 1. 6 V.S.A. chapter 201 is amended to read:

13 CHAPTER 201. HUMANE SLAUGHTER OF LIVESTOCK

14 * * *

15 § 3133a. OBSERVATION BY HUMANE SOCIETY

16 An inspector who is a representative of a the humane society of the United
17 States, a Vermont-domiciled humane society, or similar organization approved
18 by rule of the secretary, shall be present to observe a slaughterer, packer, or
19 stockyard operator when engaged in the practice of bleeding or slaughtering
20 livestock. An inspector shall immediately notify the secretary of any alleged

1 violation of this chapter or of rules adopted by the secretary under section 3133
2 of this chapter. The secretary shall institute an investigation of an alleged
3 violation within five days of receiving notice from an inspector.

4 § 3134. PENALTY

5 (a) Upon notification of an alleged violation by an inspector pursuant to
6 section 3133a of this chapter, the secretary shall issue a temporary injunction
7 against any further slaughter activities by the slaughterer, packer, or stockyard
8 operator for the pendency of the secretary's investigation. A temporary
9 injunction shall not last more than 30 days, unless the secretary determines that
10 the slaughterer, packer, or stockyard operator poses a substantial threat of
11 committing an additional violation of this chapter if the injunction is lifted.

12 (b) A person who violates this chapter shall be fined not ~~more than \$100.00~~
13 ~~nor~~ less than ~~\$50.00~~ \$5,000.00 or imprisoned not more than 90 days, or both.

14 (c) In addition to the penalty provided above, the secretary may seek an
15 a permanent injunction against a slaughterer, packer, or stockyard operator
16 who engages in practices which are prohibited by section 3132 of this title, by
17 application to the superior court for the county in which such slaughterer,
18 packer or stockyard operator resides, or where such violations occur.