WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION, 1979

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ENROLLED

HOUSE BILL No. 1047

(By Mr. )

Passed March 10, 1979

In Effect Ninety Days From Passage
AN ACT to amend and reenact section four, article ten, chapter seven of the code of West Virginia, one thousand nine hundred thirty-one, as amended, relating to providing a more specific definition of cruelty to animals; elimination of the lien for care and provision for such animals.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

That section four, article ten, chapter seven of the code of West Virginia, one thousand nine hundred thirty-one, as amended, be amended and reenacted to read as follows:

ARTICLE 10. HUMANE OFFICERS.

§7-10-4. Custody and care of animals abandoned, neglected or cruelly treated.

1 Such officers shall take charge of any animal found abandoned, neglected, or cruelly, unnecessarily or needlessly beaten, tortured, tormented, mutilated, or overloaded, over-driven or willfully deprived of necessary sustenance or adequate shelter, and shall thereupon give notice thereof to the owner, if known, and shall care and provide for such animal until the owner shall take charge of the same: Provided, That if it shall appear to such officers that the owner has willfully abandoned, neglected or cruelly, unnecessarily or needlessly beaten, tortured, tormented, mutilated, or overloaded, over-driven or willfully deprived of necessary sustenance or adequate shelter such animal, the animal shall not be returned...
to him until he has been acquitted of the charge, or, if convicted thereof, until he has given bond as provided in the last preceding section, and not then until he has fully paid all charges for the care and provisions for such animal during the time it shall have been in the possession of such humane officer.

This section shall not apply to farm livestock or poultry which are kept and maintained by usual and accepted standards of livestock or poultry production upon a farm.
The Joint Committee on Enrolled Bills hereby certifies that the foregoing bill is correctly enrolled.

James Davis
Chairman Senate Committee

Clarence L. Chock
Chairman House Committee

Originated in the House.

Takes effect ninety days from passage.

J. William Jr.
Clerk of the Senate

W. Blankenship
Clerk of the House of Delegates

W. Boyd Jr.
President of the Senate

Clyde M. Lee, Jr.
Speaker House of Delegates

The within ____________ this the __ day of ________, 1979.

Governor