



190218

LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate

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House

The Committee on Criminal Justice (Gaetz) recommended the following:

Senate Amendment (with title amendment)

Delete everything after the enacting clause
and insert:

Section 1. This act may be cited as "Trooper's Law."

Section 2. Section 828.13, Florida Statutes, is amended to
read:

828.13 Confinement of animals without sufficient food,
water, or exercise; abandonment of animals.—

(1) As used in this section:



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11 (a) "Abandon" means to forsake an animal entirely or to
12 neglect or refuse to provide or perform the legal obligations
13 for care and support of an animal by its owner.

14 (b) "Natural disaster" means a situation in which a
15 hurricane, tropical storm, or tornado warning has been issued
16 for a municipality or a county by the National Weather Service,
17 or in which a municipality or county is under a mandatory or
18 voluntary evacuation order.

19 (c) "Owner" includes any owner, custodian, or other person
20 in charge of an animal.

21 (d) "Restraint" means a chain, rope, tether, leash, cable,
22 or other device that attaches an animal to a stationary object
23 or trolley system.

24 (2) A person who ~~Whoever~~:

25 (a) Impounds or confines any animal in any place and fails
26 to supply the animal during such confinement with a sufficient
27 quantity of good and wholesome food and water,

28 (b) Keeps any animals in any enclosure without wholesome
29 exercise and change of air, or

30 (c) Abandons to die any animal that is maimed, sick,
31 infirm, or diseased,

32
33 ~~commits is guilty of~~ a misdemeanor of the first degree,
34 punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or by a fine of not more
35 than \$5,000, or ~~by both imprisonment and a fine.~~

36 (3) A ~~Any~~ person who is the owner or possessor, or has
37 charge or custody, of any animal who abandons such animal to
38 suffer injury or malnutrition or abandons any animal in a
39 street, road, or public place without providing for the care,



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40 sustenance, protection, and shelter of such animal commits is
41 ~~guilty of~~ a misdemeanor of the first degree, punishable as
42 provided in s. 775.082 or by a fine of not more than \$5,000, or
43 ~~by both imprisonment and a fine.~~

44 (4) A person who abandons an animal by using a restraint on
45 the animal and leaving that animal restrained outside during a
46 natural disaster commits a felony of the third degree,
47 punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or by a fine of not more
48 than \$10,000, or both.

49 Section 3. This act shall take effect October 1, 2025.

50 ===== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =====

51 And the title is amended as follows:

52 Delete everything before the enacting clause
53 and insert:

54 A bill to be entitled
55 An act relating to abandoning restrained animals
56 during natural disasters; providing a short title;
57 amending s. 828.13, F.S.; defining terms; prohibiting
58 abandoning an animal that is restrained outside during
59 a natural disaster; providing criminal penalties;
60 providing an effective date.