CS/HB 205

1	A bill to be entitled
2	An act relating to abandoning restrained dogs during
3	natural disasters; providing a short title; amending
4	s. 828.13, F.S.; providing definitions; prohibiting
5	restraining a dog outside during a natural disaster
6	and thereafter abandoning the dog; providing criminal
7	penalties; providing an effective date.
8	
9	Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:
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11	Section 1. This act may be cited as "Trooper's Law."
12	Section 2. Section 828.13, Florida Statutes, is amended to
13	read:
14	828.13 Confinement of animals without sufficient food,
15	water, or exercise; abandonment of animals
16	(1) As used in this section:
17	(a) "Abandon" means to forsake an animal entirely or to
18	neglect or refuse to provide or perform the legal obligations
19	for care and support of an animal by its owner.
20	(b) "Natural disaster" means a situation in which a
21	hurricane, tropical storm, or tornado warning has been issued
22	for a municipality or a county by the National Weather Service,
23	or the municipality or county is under a mandatory or voluntary
24	evacuation order.
25	<u>(c)</u> "Owner" includes any owner, custodian, or other
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26 person in charge of an animal. 27 "Restrain" means to attach a dog to a stationary (d) 28 object or trolley system by way of a chain, rope, tether, leash, 29 cable, or other device. 30 (2) Whoever: Impounds or confines any animal in any place and fails 31 (a) 32 to supply the animal during such confinement with a sufficient 33 quantity of good and wholesome food and water, Keeps any animals in any enclosure without wholesome 34 (b) 35 exercise and change of air, or Abandons to die any animal that is maimed, sick, 36 (C) 37 infirm, or diseased, 38 39 commits is guilty of a misdemeanor of the first degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or by a fine of not more 40 41 than \$5,000, or by both imprisonment and a fine. 42 Any person who is the owner or possessor, or has (3) 43 charge or custody, of any animal who abandons such animal to suffer injury or malnutrition or abandons any animal in a 44 45 street, road, or public place without providing for the care, 46 sustenance, protection, and shelter of such animal commits is quilty of a misdemeanor of the first degree, punishable as 47 provided in s. 775.082 or by a fine of not more than \$5,000, or 48 by both imprisonment and a fine. 49 50 Any person who restrains a dog outside during a (4) Page 2 of 3

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51	natural disaster, and thereafter abandons the dog, commits a
52	felony of the third degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082
53	or by a fine of not more than \$10,000, or both.
54	Section 3. This act shall take effect October 1, 2025.

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