

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 60th Legislature (2025)

SENATE BILL 945

By: Guthrie

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to crimes and punishments; amending 21 O.S. 2021, Section 1685, which relates to animal cruelty; creating misdemeanor offense; modifying scope and penalty of certain felony offense; creating felony offense; providing penalties; updating statutory language; and providing an effective date.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 21 O.S. 2021, Section 1685, is amended to read as follows:

Section 1685. A. Any person who shall knowingly deprive any animal in subjugation or captivity, whether wild or tame, and whether belonging to the person or to another, of necessary food, drink, shelter, or veterinary care; or who shall cause, procure, or permit any such animal to be deprived by another shall be guilty, upon conviction, of a misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment in the county jail for a term not to exceed one (1) year, by a fine not more than One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00), or by both such imprisonment and fine. Any animal so maltreated shall be considered a neglected animal.

1 B. Any person who shall ~~willfully or maliciously torture~~
2 knowingly, destroy, or kill, or cruelly beat or injure, maim, or
3 mutilate any animal in subjugation or captivity, whether wild or
4 tame, and whether belonging to the person or to another, ~~or deprive~~
5 ~~any such animal of necessary food, drink, shelter, or veterinary~~
6 ~~care to prevent suffering;~~ or who shall cause, procure, or permit
7 any such animal to be so tortured, destroyed, ~~or killed,~~ or cruelly
8 beaten or injured, maimed, or mutilated, ~~or deprived of necessary~~
9 ~~food, drink, shelter, or veterinary care to prevent suffering;~~ or
10 who shall willfully set on foot, instigate, engage in, or in any way
11 further any act of cruelty to any animal, or any act tending to
12 produce such cruelty, shall be guilty, upon conviction, of a felony
13 ~~and shall be punished~~ punishable by imprisonment in the State
14 Penitentiary custody of the Department of Corrections for a term not
15 ~~exceeding~~ to exceed five (5) years, or by imprisonment in the county
16 jail for a term not to exceed ~~exceeding~~ one (1) year, ~~or~~ by a fine
17 not ~~exceeding~~ more than Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00), or by
18 both such imprisonment and fine. Any animal so maltreated or abused
19 shall be considered an abused ~~or neglected~~ animal.

20 C. Any person providing commercial services for animals,
21 including, but not limited to, veterinary care, grooming services,
22 or boarding, who shall willfully or maliciously destroy, kill, beat,
23 injure, maim, or mutilate an animal or pet in his or her care,
24 shall, upon conviction, be guilty of a felony punishable by

1 imprisonment in the Department of Corrections for a term not to
2 exceed ten (10) years, a fine not more than Seven Thousand Dollars
3 (\$7,000.00), or by both such imprisonment and fine.

4 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2025.

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