

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 2441 Session of 2010

INTRODUCED BY READSHAW, CASORIO, MICOZZIE, BEAR, BELFANTI,  
BRENNAN, BROOKS, BUXTON, CARROLL, DEASY, DELOZIER, DeLUCA,  
FABRIZIO, FARRY, FREEMAN, GOODMAN, KORTZ, MANDERINO,  
McGEEHAN, M. O'BRIEN, PASHINSKI, QUINN, ROEBUCK, SCAVELLO,  
STABACK, THOMAS AND WHITE, APRIL 22, 2010

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY, APRIL 22, 2010

AN ACT

1 Amending Title 42 (Judiciary and Judicial Procedure) of the  
2 Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, providing for animal  
3 abuser registry.

4 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
5 hereby enacts as follows:

6 Section 1. Title 42 of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes  
7 is amended by adding a section to read:

8 § 9778. Animal abuser registry.

9 (a) Registration required.--An animal abuser located within  
10 the boundaries of this Commonwealth for more than ten days shall  
11 register with the county sheriff for the county in which the  
12 animal abuser is located before the end of the 11th day. A  
13 previously registered animal abuser shall reregister with the  
14 county sheriff for the county in which the animal abuser is now  
15 located no later than ten days after moving to the new location  
16 in this Commonwealth.

17 (b) Information required.--

1       (1) The animal abuser shall provide the county sheriff  
2 with the following information:

3       (i) Legal name and any other names or aliases that  
4 he or she uses or has used.

5       (ii) Date of birth.

6       (iii) Social Security number.

7       (iv) Current address or location.

8       (v) Place of employment.

9       (vi) The felony offense he or she was convicted of  
10 and the date and location of the offense.

11       (2) The sheriff shall obtain the following from the  
12 animal abuser:

13       (i) A photograph of the animal abuser and a complete  
14 set of his or her fingerprints.

15       (ii) A description of any tattoos, scars or other  
16 distinguishing features on his or her body that would  
17 assist in identifying the animal abuser.

18       (3) Following the initial registration under this  
19 section, an animal abuser shall annually renew the  
20 registration with the county sheriff prior to December 31 of  
21 each subsequent calendar year for a period of 15 years.

22       (c) Penalties.--An animal abuser who intentionally or  
23 knowingly fails to comply with the registration requirements of  
24 this section or who provides false information when complying  
25 with the registration requirements of this section is guilty of  
26 a felony in the third degree.

27       (d) Central and local registries.--

28       (1) The county sheriff shall maintain a local registry  
29 of animal abusers in the sheriff's jurisdiction. The sheriff  
30 shall be responsible for the following:

1           (i) Forwarding all registration information to the  
2           Pennsylvania State Police.

3           (ii) Within ten days of receiving an initial  
4           registration from an animal abuser, the county sheriff  
5           shall contact every residence, school, humane society,  
6           animal shelter and any other business within a half mile  
7           radius of the animal abuser's residence or location and  
8           provide them with the animal abuser's registration  
9           information except for the Social Security number.

10          (2) The Pennsylvania State Police shall maintain a  
11          central registry of animal abusers required to register under  
12          this section. The central registry of animal abusers shall be  
13          made available to the public through the Internet and  
14          telephone, by written access and in person. All of the  
15          information contained in an animal abuser's registration,  
16          with the exception of the Social Security number or any other  
17          information protected by law, shall be made available to the  
18          public. Records of each registration shall be maintained for  
19          the 15-year period that the animal abuser is required to be  
20          registered.

21          (e) Definitions.--As used in this section, the following  
22          words and phrases shall have the meanings given to them in this  
23          subsection:

24          "Animal abuser." An individual over 18 years of age who has  
25          been convicted of a felony violation of 18 Pa.C.S. § 5511  
26          (relating to cruelty to animals), 5511.2 (relating to police  
27          animals) or 5511.3 (relating to assault with a biological agent  
28          on animal, fowl or honey bees) or any other felony violation of  
29          a statute protecting animal welfare.

30          Section 2. This act shall take effect in 60 days.