

HCS HB 258 -- CRIME OF ANIMAL TRESPASS

SPONSOR: Reiboldt

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on Civil and Criminal Proceedings by a vote of 8 to 4. Voted "Do Pass with HCS" by the Select Committee on Judiciary by a vote of 5 to 3.

Currently, a person is guilty of the crime of animal trespass if he or she having ownership of an animal knowingly fails to provide adequate control for a period of 12 hours or more. This bill specifies that a person commits the offense of animal or livestock trespass if he or she having ownership or custody of an animal knowingly fails to provide adequate control and the animal trespasses onto another person's property or having ownership or custody of livestock knowingly fails to provide adequate control of the livestock for a period of 12 hours or more and the livestock trespasses onto another person's property.

The bill removes the specified maximum fines that may be charged for the offenses of animal or livestock trespass.

The bill repeals a provision specifying that reasonable costs incurred for the care and maintenance of trespassing animals may not be waived.

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that the bill clarifies what constitutes an animal or livestock, specifically, what animals are included in these terms.

Testifying for the bill was Representative Reiboldt.

OPPONENTS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.