

2021 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 223

BY REPRESENTATIVE WILLARD

Prefiled pursuant to Article III, Section 2(A)(4)(b)(i) of the Constitution of Louisiana.

ANIMALS/CRUELTY: Provides relative to proper shelter for a dog

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 14:102(5), relative to cruelty to animals; to provide relative to
3 definitions; to provide relative to the definition of proper shelter for a dog; and to
4 provide for related matters.

5 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

6 Section 1. R.S. 14:102(5) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

7 §102. Definitions; cruelty to animals

8 The following words, phrases, and terms as used in R.S. 14:102.1 through
9 R.S. 14:102.4 shall be defined and construed as follows:

10 * * *

11 (5)(a) "Proper shelter" means providing each animal, except for dogs, with
12 adequate shelter from the elements as required to prevent unnecessary or
13 unjustifiable suffering by the animal.

14 (b) "Proper shelter" means, with regard to dogs, an upright, weather resistant
15 structure with three walls, an opening, a roof, and a floor; it shall be free of waste
16 and standing water, and it shall be sufficient in size for an animal to stand in an
17 upright position, turn around, and make normal posturing positions. "Proper shelter"
18 shall not include animal carriers, plastic crates, and other enclosures designed to
19 provide temporary housing.

20 * * *

1 Section 2. The Louisiana State Law Institute is hereby authorized and directed to
2 renumber the terms defined in R.S. 14:102 to ensure that such terms are in alphabetical
3 order.

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

HB 223 Engrossed

2021 Regular Session

Willard

Abstract: Adds a definition of "proper shelter" for a dog.

Present law provides that the definition of the term "proper shelter" for an animal means providing each animal with adequate shelter from the elements as required to prevent unnecessary or unjustifiable suffering by the animal.

Proposed law retains present law and specifies that the present law definition of "proper shelter" applies to all animals, except for dogs.

Proposed law provides that the definition of "proper shelter" means, with regard to dogs, an upright, weather resistant structure with three walls, an opening, a roof, and a floor. The proper shelter shall be free of waste and standing water, and it shall be sufficient in size for an animal to stand in an upright position, turn around, and make normal posturing positions.

Proposed law further provides that "proper shelter" shall not include animal carriers, plastic crates, and other enclosures designed to provide temporary housing.

(Amends R.S. 14:102(5))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Administration of Criminal Justice to the original bill:

1. Make present law definition of "proper shelter" applicable to all animals except for dogs.
2. Add a definition of "proper shelter" applicable to only dogs.