

2016 Regular Session

SENATE BILL NO. 435

BY SENATORS MORRELL, CARTER AND PEACOCK

THEFT. Provides relative to the theft of animals. (8/1/16)

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AN ACT

To enact R.S. 14:67.30, relative to the theft of animals; to create the crime of theft of animals; to provide definitions; to provide for penalties; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

§67.30. Theft of animals

A. Theft of animals is the misappropriation, killing, or taking of any animal which belongs to another, either without consent of the other to the misappropriation or taking, or by means of fraudulent conduct, practices, or representations. An intent to deprive the other permanently of the animal or an intent to ransom it for the purpose of extorting money or favor is essential.

B. Whoever violates the provisions of this Section shall be imprisoned for not more than six months or fined not more than five hundred dollars or both. If the offender in such a case has been convicted of misdemeanor theft of an animal two or more times previously, upon any subsequent conviction he shall be imprisoned, with or without hard labor, for not more than two years or may be fined not more than one thousand dollars, or both.

1 **C. For the purposes of this Section, "animal" means any nonhuman**
 2 **living creature except for livestock as defined in R.S. 14:67.1.**

The original instrument was prepared by James Benton. The following digest, which does not constitute a part of the legislative instrument, was prepared by Linda Nugent.

DIGEST

SB 435 Reengrossed

2016 Regular Session

Morrell

Proposed law provides that theft of animals is the misappropriation, killing, or taking of any animal which belongs to another, either without consent of the other to the misappropriation or taking, or by means of fraudulent conduct, practices, or representations. An intent to deprive the other permanently of the animal or an intent to ransom it for the purpose of extorting money or favor is essential.

Proposed law provides for a penalty of imprisonment for not more than six months or a fine of not more than \$500, or both.

Proposed law provides that if the offender in such a case has been convicted of misdemeanor theft of an animal two or more times previously, upon any subsequent conviction he will be imprisoned, with or without hard labor, for not more than two years or may be fined not more than \$1,000, or both.

Proposed law provides that "animal" means any nonhuman living creature except for livestock as defined in present law.

Effective August 1, 2016.

(Adds R.S. 14:67.30)

Summary of Amendments Adopted by Senate

Senate Floor Amendments to engrossed bill

1. Replaces the several penalties based on the value of the animal with the penalty of imprisonment of not more than six months or a fine of not more than \$500, or both.