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ANIMAL CRUELTY

House Bill 5057

Sponsor: Rep. Jon Jellema

Committee: Judiciary

Complete to 5-15-98

A SUMMARY OF HOUSE BILL 5057 AS INTRODUCED 7-16-97

The bill would amend the Michigan Penal Code to make several technical changes to the provisions regarding animal cruelty. The term "animal shelter" would be replaced with the term "animal protection shelter." "Dog pound" would be replaced with "animal control shelter." In addition, the bill would change provisions allowing for the prosecutor to petition the court to issue an order forfeiting an animal during an animal cruelty criminal proceeding. Instead of allowing the forfeiture proceeding to be done by petition before final disposition of the criminal charge, the prosecutor would be required to file a civil action with the court that was hearing the criminal action. The civil action would be heard by the judge without a jury and would otherwise proceed in the same fashion as is currently required for a petition. Finally, the bill would provide that an animal that had been seized under the animal cruelty provisions could not be subject to any other civil action before the final judgment in the forfeiture action.

MCL 750.50

House Bill 5057 (5-15-98)

Analyst: W. Flory

■ This analysis was prepared by nonpartisan House staff for use by House members in their deliberations, and does not constitute an official statement of legislative intent.