

# State of Wisconsin



1995 Assembly Bill 18

Date of enactment: **December 1, 1995**  
Date of publication\*: **December 15, 1995**

## 1995 WISCONSIN ACT 90

AN ACT to amend 951.16 of the statutes; relating to: investigation of animal cruelty complaints.

*The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:*

**SECTION 1.** 951.16 of the statutes is amended to read:  
**951.16 Investigation of cruelty complaints.** ~~Any~~ A person who has may apply for a search warrant under s. 968.12 if there is reason to believe that a violation of this chapter has taken place or is taking place ~~may apply to any circuit court for a search warrant.~~ The court shall examine under oath the person so applying and any witnesses the person may produce and shall take the person's sworn affidavit in writing. The affidavit shall set forth the facts tending to establish probable cause to believe that a violation of this chapter has occurred or is occurring. If the court is satisfied that probable cause exists,

it shall issue a search warrant directing a law enforcement officer in the county to proceed immediately to the location of the alleged violation with a doctor of veterinary medicine, if the court determines that a veterinarian is necessary for purposes of the search, and directing the law enforcement officer to search the place designated in the warrant, retaining in his or her custody subject to the order of the court such property or things as are specified in the warrant, including any animal. The warrant shall be executed and returned to the court which issued the warrant in accordance with ss. 968.15 and 968.17. ~~The warrant issued under this section shall have the same force and effect as a warrant issued under s. 968.12.~~ This section shall not affect other powers and duties of law enforcement officers.

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\* Section 991.11, WISCONSIN STATUTES 1993-94: Effective date of acts. "Every act and every portion of an act enacted by the legislature over the governor's partial veto which does not expressly prescribe the time when it takes effect shall take effect on the day after its date of publication as designated" by the secretary of state [the date of publication may not be more than 10 working days after the date of enactment].