



2013 SENATE BILL 199

May 23, 2013 – Introduced by Senators RISSER, CARPENTER and HARRIS, cosponsored by Representatives STONE, C. TAYLOR, SINICKI, HEBL, GOYKE, BERCEAU, POPE, OHNSTAD, WRIGHT and HULSEY. Referred to Committee on Judiciary and Labor.

1 **AN ACT** *to amend* 173.12 (title) and 173.12 (1) of the statutes; **relating to:**
2 reporting the mistreatment of animals.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Current law requires a veterinarian to report to a humane officer or law enforcement officer when the veterinarian has reason to believe that an animal has been in a fight in violation of the law relating to animal fighting.

This bill expands the reporting requirement so that it applies to mistreatment of an animal in violation of any of the laws relating to crimes against animals. Under the bill, a veterinarian who makes a report of animal mistreatment in good faith is immune from civil liability for making the report.

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

3 **SECTION 1.** 173.12 (title) of the statutes is amended to read:
4 **173.12** (title) **Animal Reporting animal mistreatment; animal fighting;**
5 **seizure.**

6 **SECTION 2.** 173.12 (1) of the statutes is amended to read:

SENATE BILL 199

1 173.12 (1) Any veterinarian who has reason to believe that an animal has been
2 in a fight in violation of s. 951.08 or otherwise mistreated in violation of ch. 951 shall
3 report the matter to the local humane officer or to a local law enforcement agency.
4 The report shall be in writing and shall include a description and the location of the
5 animal, any injuries suffered by the animal and the name and address of the owner
6 or person in charge of the animal, if known. Any veterinarian making a report under
7 this subsection in good faith is immune from civil liability resulting from making the
8 report.

9

(END)