

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to present law.

State of Arkansas
95th General Assembly
Regular Session, 2025

As Engrossed: S3/13/25

A Bill

SENATE BILL 342

By: Senator A. Clark

By: Representative Gonzales

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO AMEND THE LAW CONCERNING ANIMALS; TO AMEND THE LAW CONCERNING INJURIES TO CERTAIN ANIMALS BY DOGS TO AUTHORIZE TREBLE DAMAGES; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

TO AMEND THE LAW CONCERNING INJURIES TO CERTAIN ANIMALS BY DOGS TO AUTHORIZE TREBLE DAMAGES.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 20-19-102 is amended to read as follows:

20-19-102. Injuries to domesticated animals by dogs – Definition.

(a)(1) As used in this section, “domesticated animals” includes, ~~but is not limited to,~~ without limitation sheep, goats, cattle, swine, ~~and~~ poultry, and other livestock.

(2) A person owning or having in possession or under control a dog is liable for damages to the owner or owners of a domesticated animal killed or injured by the dog for the full value of the domesticated animal killed or injured.

(b)(1) A person engaged in raising domesticated animals or owning domesticated animals who sustains a loss or damage to any of his or her domesticated animals by a dog has a right of action against the owner, possessor, or controller of the dog.

(2) A person knowing that a dog has killed or is about to catch, injure, or kill a domesticated animal has the right to kill the dog, without



liability to the owner of the dog.

(c)(1) The person sustaining loss or damage under subsection (b) of this section and desiring remuneration may ~~go before~~ file a complaint with the circuit court or district court having jurisdiction where the loss or damage occurred as permitted by the Arkansas Rules of Civil Procedure and allege the:

(A) ~~loss~~ Loss or damage sustained, ~~the;~~

(B) ~~value~~ Value of the loss or damage, ~~and the identity;~~

and

(C) Identity of the dog and the dog's owner, possessor, or controller ~~by filing a complaint with the circuit court or district court having jurisdiction as permitted by the Arkansas Rules of Civil Procedure,~~

(2) The circuit court or district court having jurisdiction under subdivision (c)(1) of this section ~~which under the rules may issue;~~

(A) Issue a summons to the defendant to appear in the circuit court or district court having jurisdiction and answer the allegations, ~~;~~ and

(B) Award the plaintiff treble the damages or loss in subdivision (c)(1)(B) of this section.

/s/A. Clark