

THE CROATIAN PARLIAMENT

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Pursuant to Article 88 of the Constitution of the Republic of Croatia, I hereby issue the

DECISION PROMULGATING THE ANIMAL PROTECTION ACT

I hereby promulgate the Animal Protection Act passed by the Croatian Parliament at its session on 1 December 2006.

Class: 011-01/06-01/76

Reference number: 71-05-03/1-06-2

Zagreb, 7 December 2006

The President
of the Republic of Croatia
Stjepan Mesic, m.p.

THE ANIMAL PROTECTION ACT

I GENERAL PROVISIONS

Objectives

Article 1

This Act governs the responsibilities, obligations and duties of natural and legal persons in relation to the protection of animals, including the protection of their life, health and welfare; the manner of handling animals; animal protection requirements that must be complied with in the keeping and raising of animals, when transporting them, using them in experiments, at the time of slaughter or humane killing, when keeping them in zoological gardens and circuses, using them in performances and competitions of animals, when selling companion animals and handling abandoned and lost animals.

Scope

Article 2

- (1) This Act shall apply to all vertebrate animals.
- (2) Animals referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article which are protected under special legislation shall be subject, in addition to the provisions of this Act, to nature protection legislation.
- (3) This Act shall not apply to embryonic and foetal stages of animal development.
- (4) This Act shall not apply to hunting grounds and game management, with the exception of:
 1. the raising and keeping of animals used as hunting aids and
 2. the raising and keeping of animals outside a hunting ground for hunting purposes.
- (5) This Act shall not apply to fishing.

Definitions

Article 3

For the purposes of this Act, the following terms shall have the following meanings:

1. *Analgesia*: a procedure performed to reduce or eliminate the sensation of pain in animals using special purpose means without causing loss of consciousness;
2. *Anaesthesia*: a procedure performed to eliminate the sensation of pain in animals using special purpose

means;

3. *Circuses and performances involving animals*: performances involving animals, which are organised by legal and natural persons with the aim of entertaining the audience;
4. *Wild animals*: all animals including alien animal species, with the exception of domestic animals, companion animals, working dogs and horses and service animals;
5. *Domestic animals*: animals tamed by man and used for the production of food, feed and animal by-products and for other economic purposes;
6. *Doctor of veterinary medicine* (hereinafter: veterinarian): a person who has graduated from a Faculty of Veterinary Medicine;
7. *Lost animal*: an animal that has strayed from its owner, without the consent of the owner, who is searching for it;
8. *Slaughter*: causing the death of an animal by bleeding;
9. *Companion animals*: any animal kept by man for companionship, protection, assistance or interest;
10. *Minister*: the Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management;
11. *Competent authority*: the Veterinary Directorate within the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management;
12. *Abandoned animal*: any animal whose owner has intentionally abandoned it;
13. *Slaughter according to religious rite*: the slaughter of animals without stunning, carried out by a person authorised by a religious community registered in the Republic of Croatia;
14. *Stunning*: an obligatory procedure to be carried out prior to slaughter or humane killing where by an animal is put into a state of reduced consciousness;
15. *Experiments*: one or more procedures performed on an animal for experimental purposes which may cause it pain, suffering or injury;
16. *Owner*: any legal or natural person who is the owner, user or custodian of an animal and who is, as such, responsible for the health and welfare of the animal on a permanent or temporary basis;
17. *Transporter*: a natural or legal person transporting live animals;
18. *Service animals*: bodyguard dogs, property guard dogs, guide dogs for the blind, assistance dogs, search dogs and dogs used for performing other tasks, horses and other animals used by man for purposes other than production;
19. *Animal shelter*: a facility used to house and provide necessary care for abandoned and lost animals;
20. *Working horses*: horses for which a licence to work has been issued and which are used by particular state bodies to perform certain tasks;
21. *Working dogs*: dogs for which a licence to work has been issued and which are used by particular state bodies to perform certain tasks;
22. *Alien animal species*: animal species which do not occur naturally within the territory of the Republic of Croatia;
23. *Humane killing*: a procedure performed by using tools and methods approved for such purpose and in a manner which causes the animals a minimum of pain, suffering and fear;
24. *Veterinary office*: a regional unit of the Veterinary Directorate of the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water

Management;

25. *Intervention*: any procedure resulting in damage to or the loss of a sensitive part of the body or the alteration of bone structure;

26. *Zoological garden*: a business engaged in by legal and natural persons who keep domestic and wild animals for exhibition to the public for at least seven days a year, with the exception of circuses, pet shops, temporary exhibitions of animals, collections of animals not open to the public, aquariums and terrariums used for decoration in premises and establishments where animals are raised.

Procedures prohibited for the purpose of protecting animals

Article 4

(1) It is prohibited to kill animals, subject them to pain, suffering and injury, and intentionally expose them to fear, contrary to the provisions of this Act.

(2) It is prohibited to:

1. raise animals in a way that causes them pain, suffering and fear and to intentionally injure them, contrary to the rules of the profession and the latest scientific developments,
2. import or sell animals raised in the way referred to in item 1 of this paragraph,
3. increase aggressiveness of animals through selection or other methods,
4. incite animals against another animals or humans or train them to be aggressive, except when training working dogs and hunting dogs under the supervision of qualified persons,
5. train animals to fight, organise animal fights, with the exception of traditional bull fighting, or participate in such fights, attend or advertise them and organise and participate in betting in relation to such fights,
6. give animals as prizes in games of chance,
7. use technical devices, aids and tools aimed at controlling behaviour of animals by punishment, including prong collars or training devices involving the use of electric current or chemical substances, except when training working dogs,
8. organise dog races on hard surfaces,
9. give stimulants or other unauthorised substances to animals in order to improve their performance in sports competitions and shows,
10. give unauthorised stimulants and substances to animals in order to enhance their growth and weight gain,
11. use animals in circuses and other shows, film and television productions, advertisements, exhibitions or competitions in which animals are forced to behave unnaturally, or are subject to pain, suffering, injury or fear,
12. force animals into a behaviour that causes them pain, suffering, injury or fear,
13. expose animals to adverse temperatures and weather conditions, contrary to accepted animal hygiene standards for individual animal species, or to lack of oxygen, thus causing them pain, suffering, injury or fear,
14. give animals food or substances the ingestion of which causes pain, suffering, injury, fear or death,
15. force animals to take particular food or substances, unless instructed by a veterinarian to do so for animal health reasons or unless it is scientifically justified,
16. neglect an animal in terms of its health, housing, nutrition, and care,
17. cut off sensitive parts of the body of live animals,
18. use unauthorised traps to catch animals,

19. feed live animals to other animals unless unavoidable,
20. use live animals as hunting bait,
21. restrict the movement of animals in a way that causes them pain, suffering, injury or fear, in contravention of the provisions of this Act,
22. stun, slaughter or kill animals for ritual purposes,
23. rear animals for fur production purposes.

By way of derogation from the provisions of paragraphs 1 and 2 of this Article, the following procedures shall be permitted:

1. those carried out for animal health reasons or undertaken for other reasons to protect animals,
2. those carried out to control human and animal diseases,
3. those carried out for the purposes of pest control,
4. control of the movement of animals raised for production purposes through the use of electric shocks and the setting up of electric fences.

(4) The manner of training working dogs and horses shall be prescribed by the Minister, based on the opinions of the minister in charge of interior affairs and the minister in charge of defence.

Protection of animals while they are kept or raised

Article 5

The owner of an animal must not:

1. abandon a domestic animal, companion animal or raised wild animal or other animal kept under his control,
2. expose a raised or cultivated wild animal to the wild or settle it in the wild, unless prepared for survival in such environment, in accordance with special regulations,
3. inflict pain, suffering or injury upon animals during their training.

Obligation to render assistance

Article 6

Any person who injures an animal must render assistance to the animal as may be necessary and if he/she is not able to do it himself/herself he/she must arrange for assistance to be provided.

Protection of animals during health care provision and zootechnical interventions

Article 7

All surgical or zootechnical interventions on animals, with the exception of those referred to in Article 8, paragraph 5 of this Act, must be carried out using anaesthesia, in compliance with the provisions of the veterinary legislation and the rules of the profession.

Interventions on animals

Article 8

(1) The partial or total amputation of a sensitive part of the body of an animal shall be prohibited, including:

1. the marking of animals contrary to the provisions of special regulations,
2. ear cropping and tail docking in dogs, declawing of cats, devocalisation and other interventions aimed at changing the phenotypic appearance of the animal.

(2) By way of derogation from the provision of paragraph 1 of this Article, the partial or total amputation or removal of a sensitive part of the body of an animal shall be permitted if performed with prior anaesthesia and post-

operative analgesia and if an intervention:

1. is justified for animal health reasons,
2. is performed for the purpose of conducting experiments on animals,
3. is performed for the purpose of controlling the reproduction of animals.

(3) By way of derogation from the provision of paragraphs 1 and 2 of this Article, the partial or total amputation or removal of sensitive parts of the body of an animal shall be permitted if undertaken for zootechnical purposes including castration, if such intervention prevents pain, suffering and self-injury or injury to other animals, or for safety reasons, and in hunting dogs in compliance with specified kennel standards, with the use of analgesia, in cases to be determined by the Minister.

(4) Interventions likely to cause suffering or severe pain to an animal may only be performed after analgesia or anaesthesia and if post-operative care is provided.

(5) Anaesthesia shall not be used:

1. when the risks posed by anaesthesia would be disproportionate to its benefits,
2. during the marking of animals, unless necessary for the safety of the person carrying out the marking,
3. in certain diagnostic and therapeutic procedures in accordance with the rules of the profession,
4. when the pain caused by anaesthesia is greater than that caused by the intervention itself,
5. when it is incompatible with the results hoped to be achieved by the experiment.

Protection of animals at the time of humane killing

Article 9

(1) It is prohibited to kill animals contrary to the provisions of this Act.

(2) Special-purpose means and prescribed methods shall be used in the humane killing of animals.

(3) An animal may be humanely killed when:

1. medical treatment of the animal is likely to be long lasting and cause suffering, and the outcome of the treatment is uncertain,
2. the animal has reached an advanced age and its vital functions are failing,
3. the animal is suffering from an incurable disease,
4. such procedure is necessary because of the implementation of disease control measures in accordance with the veterinary legislation, in particular for those diseases that can threaten humans or cause great economic damage,
5. the animal constitutes a danger to the community,
6. the time period referred to in Article 57, paragraph 4 has elapsed, and in the case referred to in Article 55, paragraph 5 and Article 65, paragraph 2 of this Act,
7. it is done for the purpose of pest control,
8. the animal kept or bred for production purposes is sick or injured, and slaughter or humane killing under the veterinarian's supervision is not possible,
9. it is necessary for the purpose of performing an experiment on the animal or producing biological preparations or after the completion of the experiment or after using the animal for the production of biological preparations.

(4) In the cases referred to in paragraph 3, items 1 and 2 of this Article, the decision on whether to humanely kill an animal shall be taken by the owner of the animal, based on the opinion of a veterinarian and, in the cases

referred to in items 3 to 9 of the same paragraph, by a veterinarian, with the exception of the case referred to in item 8 of the same paragraph in which the decision shall be taken by the owner of the animal.

(5) The humane killing of an animal may only be carried out by a veterinarian or qualified veterinary technician under the supervision of a veterinarian, except in the following cases:

1. the humane killing of animals bred or kept for production purposes,
2. the humane killing of animals for the purposes of teaching, conducting experiments or producing biological preparations,
3. pest control,
4. when it is necessary to humanely kill an animal without delay because it suffers severe and incurable pain.

Treatment of animals that suffer from incurable pain

Article 10

The owner of an animal that suffers from severe and incurable pain must, without delay, have the animal humanely killed.

II. SPECIAL PROVISIONS

1. Protection of animals during transport

Article 11

(1) The transport of animals may be carried out by transporters who are authorised by the competent authority and those who have obtained permission from the competent authority to carry out this activity.

(2) The competent authority shall keep a register of transporters of animals.

(3) By way of derogation from the provisions of paragraphs 1 and 2 of this Article, of Article 12, paragraph 2, item 5, and Articles 13 and 14 of this Act, farmers may transport domestic animals using agricultural vehicles or other means of transport belonging to them in the following cases:

- seasonal transhumance of animals to other climatic areas and
- transport of their own animals for a distance of up to 50 km from their holding.

(4) The provisions of Article 12, paragraph 2 to Article 15 of this Act shall not apply to the transport of animals which does not take place in connection with an economic activity, to the transport of companion animals in one's own means of transport, and to the transport of animals for the purposes of obtaining veterinary care.

(5) The provisions of paragraphs 1 and 2 of this Article, of Article 12, paragraph 2, item 5, and Articles 13 and 14 of this Act, shall not apply to persons transporting animals up to a maximum distance of 65 km counted from the place of departure to the place of destination.

Requirements for the transport of animals

Article 12

(1) It is prohibited to transport animals in a way that causes them pain, suffering, injury or death.

(2) The following conditions must be complied with when transporting animals:

1. steps must be taken in advance to minimise the length of the journey and of any delay, and to meet the animals' needs during the journey,
2. the animals must be fit for the journey,
3. the means of transport must be designed, constructed, maintained and operated so as to avoid injury and suffering and ensure the safety of the animals,

4. the loading and unloading facilities and equipment must be designed, constructed, maintained and operated so as to avoid pain, suffering and injury and ensure the safety of the animals,
5. the personnel handling animals must be trained,
6. the conditions of transport of animals must be regularly checked and maintained,
7. sufficient floor area and height must be provided for the animals, appropriate to their species and age and the length of the journey,
8. water and feed must be offered to the animals at suitable intervals and must be appropriate in quality and quantity to the species, size and age of the animals,
9. during the journey, the animals must be rested at appropriate intervals,
10. in the case of aquatic animals transported in special means of transport or containers, a sufficient quantity of water of appropriate temperature and an adequate oxygen supply must be provided during transport, depending on the needs of the particular animal species,
11. late-pregnant females during a period equal to 10% of the length of gestation before giving birth, and females during one week after giving birth shall not be considered fit for transport, except when emergency veterinary treatment is needed,
12. when the upright position of a container in which animals are transported is not readily visible from outside, the said position must be indicated by a sign. Where it is not apparent from the nature of a container that live animals are carried in it, the container must be clearly marked to indicate that it contains live animals as well as the species of those animals.

Obligations of transporters

Article 13

Before engaging in the activity of transporting animals, a transporter must:

1. obtain an authorisation to carry out the activity of transporting animals, issued by the competent authority,
2. designate a person (hereinafter referred to as 'an attendant') who shall be responsible for the safety, feeding, watering and resting of the animals during transport,
3. obtain a certificate of approval of means of transport by road, issued by the competent authority.

Qualifications of transporters and other personnel

Article 14

(1) Natural persons engaged in the transport of animals by road and animal attendants must be trained to perform their tasks in accordance with paragraph 2, item 5 of Article 12, and must meet the requirements of Article 16 of this Act.

(2) Staff handling animals at assembly centres and resting points must be trained to take care of animals.

Article 15

(1) The competent authority shall keep a register of resting points for animals.

(2) The resting points for animals shall be entered in the register referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article on the basis of a decision on compliance with the prescribed requirements, issued by the competent authority.

Article 16

The requirements for the transport of animals that must be met by transporters, the requirements that must be met by resting points for animals and the training requirements for drivers and animal attendants and staff at assembly centres and resting points for animals shall be prescribed by the Minister.

2. Protection at the time of slaughter or humane killing of animals kept for production purposes

Stunning of animals

Article 17

- (1) An animal may only be slaughtered if it is stunned before slaughter, except in the case of poultry and rabbits slaughtered for private domestic consumption.
- (2) By way of derogation from paragraph 1 of this Article, an animal may be slaughtered without prior stunning only in the cases of emergency slaughter or slaughter according to religious rite.
- (3) The stunning, slaughter or killing of animals for ritual purposes is prohibited.

The handling of animals in slaughterhouses

Article 18

- (1) The handling of animals in a slaughterhouse must be in accordance with the following:
 1. after arrival, animals intended for slaughter must be unloaded from the means of transport, with the use of suitable equipment, in such a way as to spare the animals any unnecessary pain, suffering and fear;
 2. the moving of animals within the precincts of the slaughterhouse to their lairages must be done with care and without causing pain, suffering and fear, with the use of suitable tools;
 3. slaughterhouses must be equipped with suitable stalls and pens where animals are to be kept, protected from adverse weather conditions, fed and watered;
 4. the animals must be stunned by a prescribed method immediately before slaughter;
 5. the stunning process must bring animals into a state of unconsciousness, in which state the animals must be slaughtered.
- (2) The slaughter of animals must be carried out in a prescribed manner with the use of suitable equipment.
- (3) It is prohibited to use stunning equipment or methods that cause unnecessary pain, suffering or fear.

Slaughtering and humane killing

Article 19

- (1) The humane killing of animals must be carried out in such a way as to spare the animals any unnecessary pain, suffering, injury or fear, in accordance with the provisions of this Act.
- (2) Animals may be moved, lairaged and cared for in the slaughterhouse, restrained, stunned, slaughtered or humanely killed only by persons who are qualified to perform these tasks.
- (3) The slaughter of animals for private domestic consumption must be carried out in such a way as to spare the animals any unnecessary pain, suffering, injury or fear, in accordance with the provisions of this Act.
- (4) Where, in the case of emergency slaughter, stunning is not possible, slaughter shall be carried out in such a way as to spare the animals any unnecessary pain, suffering, injury or fear.
- (5) The slaughter of animals according to religious rite shall be carried out in a slaughterhouse specially approved by the competent authority for that purpose.
- (6) The Minister shall prescribe the requirements for the protection, at the time of slaughter and humane killing, of

animals kept for production purposes as well as requirements for training of staff that take care of animals in slaughterhouses and are involved in the restraint, stunning and slaughter processes.

3. The protection of animals used in experiments and for the production of biological preparations

Article 20

(1) Experiments on animals may only be carried out by legal persons that are registered for carrying out this activity for the following purposes:

1. the research of diseases and somatic disorders or the identification of effects of physiological and pathological conditions in man and animals,
2. the testing and development of drugs and medicinal preparations intended for human and animal health protection,
3. the carrying out of studies for the purposes of the registration of drugs and medicinal preparations as prescribed by separate regulations,
4. the investigation of production and other traits and of the ways to improve them in animals farmed for commercial and other purposes,
5. the investigation of causes and consequences of endangering the environment,
6. the testing of materials and products for their harmlessness to the health of humans or animals,
7. basic and applied scientific research,
8. educational purposes.

(2) The experiments on animals referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article may only be allowed if the purpose of the research cannot be achieved by other scientific methods and if the pain, suffering or injury that might be caused to the animals can be ethically justified in terms of the expected results which are of significance for humans or animals or science.

(3) The Minister shall prescribe specific requirements as to the housing and keeping of experimental animals and their identification, the types of experiments conducted on animals and the manner in which they are to be notified as well as the keeping of records required by Article 30 of this Act.

Marking

Article 21

Animals used for experimental purposes and for the production of biological preparations must be marked.

The breeding of animals for use in experiments and for the production of biological preparations

Article 22

(1) Legal and natural persons breeding animals for use in experiments and for the production of biological preparations may not commence the said activity without having obtained a decision from the competent authority confirming the fulfilment of requirements.

(2) Animals used in experiments and for the production of biological preparations must originate from registered breeding establishments, except in the case of wild animals taken from the wild.

(3) By way of derogation from paragraph 2 of this Article, animals not originating from registered establishments or animals taken from the wild may be used for the production of biological preparations if a decision issued by the competent authority has been obtained.

(4) The competent authority shall keep a register of legal and natural persons referred to in paragraph 1 of this

Article.

(5) The Minister shall prescribe the requirements for the breeding of animals referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article.

Prohibition on the use of animals in experiments

Article 23

It is prohibited to use animals in experiments for the following purposes:

1. the testing of weapons, ammunition or associated equipment, war equipment and general effects of radiation,
2. the research or development of tobacco products and chemical products used for the cleaning and disinfection of articles of general use,
3. the research or development of ingredients, combinations of ingredients and finished cosmetic products,
4. the study of the effects of alcohol and narcotics, except when there is no alternative scientific method that does not entail the use of animals.

Article 24

Experiments on animals may be performed by institutions of higher education and scientific-research institutions as well as by qualified legal persons registered for performing experiments on animals, in accordance with the provisions of Articles 20 to 33 of this Act, under the following conditions:

1. the results of the experiment are not sufficiently known or are not available, or the repeated testing through a double or repeated experiment or through other type of research is necessary when it is not possible to prove the results of the experiment by other scientific methods.
2. they must employ qualified staff as specified by the provisions of Article 32 of this Act,
3. they must have the necessary premises, installations, equipment and other means to carry out experiments on animals,
4. they must have premises for the housing and accommodation of animals during the experiment and must be able to ensure that the animals are kept in the prescribed manner, as well as cared for and attended to and provided with regular veterinary care.

Notification of experiments

Article 25

(1) Before the commencement of an experiment on animals, an application for authorisation to carry out the experiment on animals must be submitted to the competent authority.

(2) The application referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article must be accompanied by an explanation as to ethical and scientific justification to conduct the experiment.

(3) The authorisation to carry out the experiment on animals shall be issued by the competent authority taking into account the opinion of the Ethics Committee referred to in Article 34 of this Act.

(4) The authorisation to carry out the experiment on animals shall specify the period of its validity and shall designate, on the proposal of the applicant, the leader of the experiment and his/her deputy, the person in charge of the animal quarters and his/her deputy as well as the responsible person referred to in Article 32, paragraph 3 of this Act.

Article 26

(1) If an experiment on animals is expected to last longer than the period approved, an application for an extension of the approved period shall be submitted to the competent authority seven days before the expiry date of the said period.

(2) If the duration of several experiments of the same type is to be extended, it is sufficient to submit one application for the extension of the duration of all the experiments.

(3) Should the details stated in the authorisation referred to in Article 25, paragraph 3 of this Act change in the course of the experiment, the competent authority must be notified of the changes within three days.

(4) The decision approving the extension of the duration of the experiment referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article and the decision referred to in paragraph 3 of this Article shall be issued by the competent authority.

(5) By way of derogation from paragraph 4 of this Article, a decision approving the use of a greater number of animals, the change of animal species used or the change in the approved experimental procedures shall be issued by the competent authority taking into account the opinion of the Ethics Committee referred to in Article 34 of this Act.

Article 27

(1) By way of derogation from the provision of Article 25, paragraph 4, and Article 26 of this Act, the competent authority shall, by a decision authorising the carrying out of experiments for educational purposes, authorise the conduct of experiments for an academic year, and the planned duration of the experiments may not be extended.

(2) By way of derogation from the provision of Article 25, paragraph 4, and Article 26 of this Act, the competent authority shall, by a decision authorising the carrying out of experiments for the purposes of the projects approved by the state administration body responsible for science, authorise the experiments to be conducted during the duration of the project concerned.

Article 28

It shall be the responsibility of the leader of the experiment to ensure that the experiment on animals is conducted in accordance with the provisions of this Act.

Article 29

(1) Experiments on animals which cause them pain, suffering and injury or death may not be performed for educational purposes.

(2) By way of derogation from the provision of paragraph 1 of this Article, the competent authority may allow such experiments if they are performed in institutions of higher education or scientific-research institutions and when they are necessary for the education of veterinarians, medical doctors, experts in pharmacy and biochemistry, experts in animal husbandry, biologists and doctors of dental medicine and if satisfactory results cannot be obtained by the use of other teaching aids (e.g. computer simulations, films, illustrations, models, preparations etc.), provided that only one animal may be used for each group.

Article 30

Experiments conducted on animals and procedures applied in the production of biological preparations as well as the number of animals used must be recorded and records submitted to the competent authority once a year.

Article 31

(1) The course of an experiment on animals and the procedures used in the production of biological preparations must be recorded in logbooks.

(2) The logbooks referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article must be signed by the persons referred to in Article 32, paragraphs 1 to 3 of this Act and by the leader of the experiment or, where relevant, by the person in charge of the production of biological preparations.

(3) The logbooks referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article must be retained for three years and must be made available to the competent authority on request.

Examination required to work with animals used for experimental purposes

Article 32

(1) Experiments on animals and procedures in the production of biological preparations may be carried out by veterinarians, medical doctors, pharmaceutical chemists, medical biochemists, doctors of dental medicine, experts in animal husbandry or biologists, provided they have passed the examination required to work with animals used for experimental purposes.

(2) Surgical operations on animals during an experiment or in the production of biological preparations may be carried out by veterinarians, medical doctors, pharmaceutical chemists, medical biochemists, doctors of dental medicine, experts in animal husbandry or biologists, provided they have passed the examination referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article.

(3) When a surgical operation referred to in paragraph 2 of this Article is not carried out by a veterinarian, the person responsible for the protection of animals must be a veterinarian.

(4) The programme of the examination referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article shall be prescribed by the Minister.

(5) The exam referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article is also mandatory for:

- staff carrying out procedures on animals for the purpose of producing biological preparations,
- persons in charge of quarters for animals used in experiments and quarters for animals used for the production of biological preparations, as well their deputies,
- staff taking care of animals in establishments for breeding animals for use in experiments and for the production of biological preparations,
- staff taking care of animals being used in experiments and for the production of biological preparations.

Notification of the use of animals for the production of biological preparations

Article 33

(1) Before animals are used for the production of biological preparations as provided for in Article 22, paragraphs 2 and 3 of this Act, an application for authorisation to use animals for these purposes must be submitted to the competent authority.

(2) The application referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article must be accompanied by an explanation as to ethical justification to carry out the procedure concerned.

(3) The authorisation to use animals for the production of biological preparations shall be issued by the competent authority taking into account the opinion of the Ethics Committee referred to in Article 34 of this Act, shall be valid for the current year and may not be extended.

(4) The authorisation referred to in paragraph 3 of this Article shall specify the period of its validity and shall designate, on the proposal of the applicant, the leader of the procedure and his/her deputy, the person in charge

of the animal quarters and his/her deputy as well as the responsible person referred to in Article 32, paragraph 3 of this Act.

Ethics Committee

Article 34

(1) The Minister shall establish an Ethics Committee.

(2) The membership of the Ethics Committee shall include experts in the fields of veterinary medicine, human medicine, biology, pharmacy, biochemistry and agronomy, as well as representatives from the state administration body responsible for science and education and representatives from animal protection associations.

(3) The Ethics Committee shall:

- give opinions on ethical and animal protection issues in relation to the use of animals for experimental and educational purposes,
- propose criteria and give opinions to the competent authority during the procedure for granting authorisation to carry out an experiment,
- prepare an annual report on its work and forward to the Minister, by the end of March of the current year, the report for the preceding year.

(4) The Ethics Committee shall adopt its rules of procedure.

4. Animal Protection Commission

Article 35

(1) The Minister shall establish an Animal Protection Commission (hereinafter: the Commission).

(2) The membership of the Commission shall include representatives of:

1. the state administration body responsible for science and education,
2. the state administration body responsible for environmental protection issues,
3. the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine,
4. the Medical School,
5. the Faculty of Agriculture,
6. the Croatian Veterinary Chamber
7. the Croatian Chamber of Economy
8. the Croatian Chamber of Trades and Crafts
9. animal protection associations.

(3) The Commission shall:

1. issue opinions on proposals for legislation in the field of animal protection,
2. encourage the adoption or amendment of legislation in the field of animal protection,
3. have a duty to keep abreast of scientific and technical developments in the field of animal protection in the Republic of Croatia and the European Union and to make proposals for the improvement of animal protection in the Republic of Croatia,
4. prepare an annual report on its work and forward to the Minister, by the end of March of the current year, the report for the preceding year,
5. at the request of competent state administration bodies, provide opinions on matters relating to animal

protection.

(4) The Commission shall adopt its rules of procedure.

5. The keeping of animals used for production purposes

Principles for the keeping of animals

Article 36

(1) Animals may only be kept if their biological needs can be met in a way that does not impede their physiological functions and behaviour.

(2) The owner of animals must ensure that the space, freedom of movement, land configuration, structure of buildings and animal quarters, microclimatic conditions, care and food as well as the possible contact between animals are - having regard to the species, age and degree of development, adaptation and domestication of the animals - appropriate to their physiological and ethological needs.

Obligations of legal and natural persons keeping animals

Article 37

(1) Animals must be cared for by a sufficient number of trained staff or persons having equivalent experience or knowledge.

(2) The manner of training referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article shall be determined by the Minister.

(3) Legal and natural persons keeping animals for production purposes must be registered.

(4) The Minister shall prescribe the requirements for and the manner of keeping animals for production purposes, the manner of registering legal and natural persons who keep animals, the qualification of persons taking care of animals and the keeping of records referred to in Article 44 of this Act.

Care of ill or injured animals

Article 38

(1) The owner must, appropriately and without delay, care for any animal which shows signs of illness or is injured and, where necessary, ensure that they receive veterinary attention.

(2) Ill or injured animals must be placed in accommodation appropriate to their needs and, where necessary, in separate areas or pens.

Movement of animals

Article 39

(1) The movement of an animal must not be restricted in such a way as to cause it unnecessary suffering, pain, injury or fear.

(2) Animals must be given the space appropriate to their physiological and ethological needs.

(3) Animals must be allowed a daily time off the tether so that they can move freely in accordance with their physiological and ethological needs. Tethering must allow for ease of movement and tethered animals must not be subjected to pain, suffering, injury or fear.

(4) Domestic animals and farmed wild animals must be provided with suitable facilities or shelters to move around and with an adequate running and grazing area.

(5) Wild animals must not be kept tethered, except for veterinary-health or safety reasons. This does not apply to the training of raptors for falconry.

Feeding and watering

Article 40

- (1) The type, quality and quantity of feed provided to animals must be appropriate to the species, age and physiological needs of the animals.
- (2) Animals must have access to sufficient quantities of drinking water of suitable quality according to their needs.
- (3) Animals must be offered feed and water in a manner that is appropriate to their species and age.
- (4) Feeding and watering facilities and equipment must be kept clean, and facilities must be equipped in such a way that animals can take food and water in a manner appropriate to their species.

Construction and equipment of animal houses

Article 41

- (1) Materials used for the construction of animal houses and the equipment in animal buildings with which the animals come into contact must not be harmful to the animals nor adversely affect their health and must be easy to clean and, where necessary, disinfect.
- (2) Animal houses and enclosures and equipment must be constructed so that there are no sharp corners, edges or protrusions likely to cause injury to animals.

Animals not kept in buildings

Article 42

Animals which are either temporarily or permanently not kept in buildings must, where necessary, be protected from adverse weather and climatic conditions, predators and other risks to their health and well-being.

Inspection of animals and equipment

Article 43

- (1) All animals kept on holdings or in such husbandry systems in which their health and welfare depend on human care must be inspected on a regular basis, at least once a day.
- (2) To enable the animals to be inspected at any time, adequate lighting must be available to the extent necessary for the care and inspection of the animals.
- (3) All automated and mechanical equipment essential for maintaining the health of the animals must be regularly inspected, at least once a day. Where defects are discovered, these must be rectified immediately, or if this is impossible, backup equipment must be available to preserve the health and well-being of the animals.

Records

Article 44

- (1) The owner of the animals must maintain a record of any medicinal treatment given to the animals and of the number of animals which have died or have been killed.
- (2) The records referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article must be retained for at least one year and must be made available to the competent inspection authority on request.

Protection of wild animals while they are kept or raised

Article 45

- (1) The Minister shall prescribe the requirements for the keeping and raising of wild animals which, having regard to climatic conditions, their dietary requirements, need for free movement and degree of adaptation, require special care.
- (2) The provisions of paragraph 1 of this Article shall not apply to:

1. institutions and professional legal persons referred to in Article 24 of this Act that perform experiments on animals,
2. zoological gardens,
3. animal shelters,
4. wild animals protected under a separate nature protection legislation.

6. Protection of wild animals in nature

Article 46

Actions, such as those listed below, by which wild animals in nature are subjected to torture, either as a population or an individual animal, or are prevented from satisfying their physiological needs (eating, drinking, reproduction etc.) for a longer period of time are prohibited:

1. preventing access to water or to other parts of the habitat that are essential to the survival of a species, by fencing, contamination, chasing away or the like,
2. destroying an entire habitat or portions thereof which are essential to the survival of a species,
3. introducing alien animal species into the habitat,
4. capturing live animals or killing them in a way that cause them lengthy suffering, unless exceptionally justified for reasons of scientific research or for the purpose of helping a population, and
5. other interventions having harmful consequences.

Article 47

Public institutions managing protected parts of nature or, where applicable, holders of hunting rights, must ensure the following for wild animals in natural habitats:

1. all necessary conditions for biological survival of a natural population consistent with ecological balance,
2. restoration of existing or new habitat disturbances,
3. veterinary healthcare.

7. Protection of companion animals

Article 48

- (1) Companion animals must be kept in conditions appropriate to their needs.
- (2) If an animal belonging to an alien animal species or species protected by special nature protection legislation is being acquired as a companion animal, specific animal keeping conditions must be met.
- (3) The sale of companion animals to under-age persons is prohibited.
- (4) It is prohibited to keep and handle a companion animal, or allow it to move, in a way that poses a risk to the health and safety of other animals and people, in particular children.
- (5) The owners of companion animals must ensure the controlled reproduction of animals which are under their control.
- (6) The owners must take care of the offspring of their own companion animals in accordance with the provisions of this Act or, in the case of uncontrolled reproduction, when they do not want to take care of the offspring, they shall bear the costs of their taking care of.
- (7) The Minister shall prescribe the requirements for, and the manner of, keeping dangerous and potentially dangerous dogs.

Article 49

(1) Breeders of companion animals intended for sale with three or more breeding females may not commence the said activity without having obtained a decision from the competent authority confirming the fulfilment of requirements.

(2) The competent authority shall keep a register of breeders referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article.

(3) The Minister shall prescribe the requirements for the breeding of companion animals referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article.

Temporary housing of companion animals

Article 50

(1) Facilities for temporary housing of companion animals may be established by a legal or natural person.

(2) The facilities referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article may not commence operation without having obtained a decision from the competent authority confirming the fulfilment of requirements.

(3) The competent authority shall keep a register of the facilities referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article.

(4) The Minister shall prescribe the requirements for the facilities referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article.

8. Protection of animals in zoological gardens

Article 51

(1) A zoological garden may not commence operation without having obtained a decision from the competent authority confirming the fulfilment of requirements.

(2) The competent authority shall keep a register of zoological gardens.

(3) The Minister shall prescribe the requirements for the establishment and operation of a zoological garden, as well as the training requirements for staff taking care of animals.

Article 52

(1) A zoological garden must ensure the following:

1. animal housing facilities which are of such a size and equipped in such a way as to meet the basic needs of each animal species and, in addition to indoor housing facilities, outdoor exercise enclosures where necessary,
2. the required daily amounts of adequate feed and water,
3. veterinary health care,
4. humane treatment of animals by staff members,
5. protection of animals from visitors,
6. protection of visitors from animals,
7. a plan for the taking care of animals should the zoological garden be closed.

(2) The competent authority may close a zoological garden or part thereof if the requirements set out in Article 61 of this Act and paragraph 1 of this Article are not satisfied.

(3) In the case referred to in paragraph 2 of this Article, the competent authority may order that the animals be:

1. given in charge of legal or natural persons who satisfy the animal keeping requirements in accordance with the provisions of this Act, and if the animals are transported abroad it must be ensured that they are provided with protection at least equivalent as provided for by the provisions of this Act or, where this is not possible,
2. humanely killed.

(4) The costs of the taking care of animals referred to in paragraph 3 of this Article shall be borne by the zoological garden.

9. Protection of animals used in circuses and other performances involving animals

Article 53

- (1) It is prohibited to keep wild animals in circuses and use them in circus performances and other performances involving animals.
- (2) Severely confined animals and animals having physical defects are prohibited from being used in performances.
- (3) No circus performance using animals or other show involving animals shall be held without a decision having been issued by a veterinary inspector upon the request of the party concerned.
- (4) An application to change the venue of the circus shall be submitted to the competent veterinary office of the place of destination and shall be accompanied by evidence that the circus venue has been made available and by information on the types and times of performances and on the number and species of animals.
- (5) Based on the application referred to in paragraph 4 of this Article, the veterinary office at the place of destination shall issue a certificate confirming that there are no veterinary-health obstacles to the movement the animals.
- (6) If the provisions of paragraph 3 of this Article are not complied with, measures specified in Article 52, paragraphs 2 and 3 of this Act shall be ordered.
- (7) The Minister shall prescribe the requirements for the keeping and use of animals in circus performances, shows involving animals and animal exhibitions, as well as the training requirements for staff taking care of animals.

10. Protection of animals used in film and television productions, exhibitions and competitions

Article 54

- (1) Animals may be used in film and television productions and in animal exhibitions and competitions provided such use is notified to the competent authority.
- (2) The notification referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article shall be sent to the competent authority at least 7 days before the use of the animals and shall contain the list of all the animals that are to be used (species and number), information about the manner in which the animals have been kept and used up to date, the purpose of the use of the animals and the place where the filming, exhibition or competition will take place.

11. Protection of abandoned and lost animals

Article 55

- (1) The owner of a lost animal is obliged to report the loss to an animal shelter within 3 days, and also, in the case of a lost dog, to the person authorized to keep dog register.
- (2) A person finding an abandoned or lost animal is obliged to inform thereof an animal shelter.
- (3) An animal shelter must provide for the collection of abandoned and lost animals and, in the case their owners cannot be identified immediately, for their housing.
- (4) An animal shall be placed in an animal shelter at the expense of the owner if known or later identified.
- (5) Any wild animal found shall be placed in a shelter for wild animals which shall ensure that it is returned to the wild, if possible, or otherwise be offered to a zoological garden equipped to receive it. If the zoological garden is unable to receive the animal, the animal may be humanely killed.
- (6) If a protected wild animal is found, the state administration body responsible for nature protection shall be

informed and shall decide on how the animal is to be taken care of.

(7) The Minister shall prescribe the requirements for the establishment and operation of an animal shelter, as well as the training requirements for staff collecting animals and taking care of them in an animal shelter.

The establishment of an animal shelter

Article 56

(1) An animal shelter may be established by a natural or legal person.

(2) An animal shelter may not commence operation without having obtained a decision from the competent authority confirming the fulfilment of requirements.

(3) The competent authority shall keep a register of animal shelters.

(4) If an animal shelter is not established in accordance with paragraph 1 of this Article, its establishment and operation shall be financed by one or more units of local or regional self-government in accordance with their needs, or the City of Zagreb.

(5) The activities of collecting abandoned and lost animals shall be financed by units of local self-government.

Article 57

(1) An animal shelter must:

1. receive reports of abandoned and lost animals,
2. whether alone or in cooperation with units of local or regional self-government, make arrangements for the collection and transport of lost and abandoned animals to the shelter,
3. provide housing for lost and abandoned animals,
4. provide housing for animals referred to in item 6 of Article 64 of this Act,
5. ensure that veterinary care is provided to animals,
6. make effort to locate the owner an abandoned and lost animal or try to place it in a foster home,
7. keep records of animals found, taken care of or humanely killed.

(2) An animal shelter must implement the measures ordered by the veterinary inspection service and cooperate with units of local and regional self-government.

(3) Where, within 15 days from the date an animal is placed in the animal shelter, the owner of the animal does not claim it, the animal may be given away or sold.

(4) Any animal placed in an animal shelter, which has not been returned to its owner and cannot be kept any longer or placed in a foster home, may be humanely killed after 60 days.

Promoting animal protection, and supervision

Article 58

(1) For the purpose of carrying out the tasks referred to in of Article 57, paragraph 1, item 6 of this Act, a founder of an animal shelter as specified in Article 56, paragraphs 1 and 4 of this Act must organise an information centre for lost and abandoned animals and must make information on the animals available to the public, other animal shelters in the territory of the Republic of Croatia and the competent authority.

(2) The competent state administration bodies and bodies of local and regional self-government units have an obligation to raise the awareness of the public, in particular of young people, about the protection of animals.

(3) The veterinary inspection shall have the right of access at any time to animal houses and premises where animals are kept and the right to inspect the health status of the animals and the conditions in which they are kept

in an animal shelter.

(4) The requirements for and the manner of keeping companion animals, the manner of controlling their reproduction, the requirements for and the manner of keeping tethered dogs, and the manner of handling lost and abandoned animals shall be prescribed by competent municipality or city authorities, except as regards companion animals belonging to protected species according to separate legislation.

12. Protection of animals in pet shops

Article 59

(1) The sale of animals in pet shops shall only be allowed if special requirements are met.

(2) Pet shops must have staff trained in the care of animals and must provide written instructions as to the proper care of animals they sell.

(3) It is prohibited to sell dogs and cats in pet shops.

(4) Animals offered for sale must come from registered establishments.

(5) A pet shop may not commence operation without having obtained a decision from the competent authority confirming the fulfilment of requirements.

(6) The competent authority shall keep a register of pet shops referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article.

(7) The Minister shall, with the consent of the minister in charge of nature protection, prescribe the special requirements referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article, the training requirements for staff as well as the manner of prescribing the instructions referred to in paragraph 2 of this Article.

III. SUPERVISION OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ACT

Competent bodies

Article 60

(1) Administrative supervision of the implementation of this Act and regulations made under it shall be conducted by the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management.

(2) Inspectional supervision of the implementation of this Act and regulations made under it shall be carried out by veterinary or livestock inspectors of the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management in accordance with the powers given to them by veterinary or livestock breeding legislation.

Inspectional supervision

Article 61

Inspectional supervision referred to in Article 60, paragraph 2 of this Act shall be carried out based on risk assessment, random selection of inspection sites or after becoming aware of an act done in contravention of the provisions of this Act, and it may be carried out simultaneously with the supervision performed in accordance with certain veterinary or livestock breeding regulations.

Assistance in carrying out supervision

Article 62

On request of the competent inspector, police officers of the Ministry of Interior shall, within the limits of their powers, provide assistance in the carrying out of inspectional supervision.

Exercise of supervision

Article 63

(1) In carrying out supervision, the competent inspector is authorised to inspect the premises of the holding, the areas, rooms, equipment and means of transport.

(2) The owners of the holdings, areas, rooms, equipment and means of transport, who keep animals, must enable the inspectional supervision referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article to be carried out, give the required data, information and documentation to the competent inspector and provide conditions for unhindered work.

(3) Upon the request of the competent inspector, the owner must submit or prepare, within a specified time period, the prescribed records and documents that the inspector may need during inspectional supervision.

Powers of inspectors

Article 64

In exercising supervision, the competent inspector shall:

1. prohibit acts which are contrary to the provisions of this Act,
2. order that measures be taken within a specified time to remedy the irregularities observed,
3. temporarily remove from the custody of the owner or keeper an animal which is in a condition suggesting that the animal is in pain, suffering or feeling great fear, that it is injured or that its further living in the same conditions would be associated with incurable pain,
4. temporarily seize documents and objects which can be used as evidence in offence or criminal proceedings,
5. bring criminal charges or file a request for initiation of an offence proceeding,
6. issue a receipt for the temporarily removed animal referred to in item 3 of this Article and for the temporarily seized objects and documents referred to in item 4 of this Article, and shall place the removed animal in an animal shelter.

Article 65

(1) Temporarily removed animals referred to in item 3 of Article 64 of this Act may be returned to their owners if the animal keeping requirements determined by the provisions of this Act are met, or otherwise it will be placed in an animal shelter.

(2) If an animal cannot be taken care of in one of the ways specified in paragraph 1 of this Article, the animal may be humanely killed at the expense of the owner.

IV PENAL PROVISIONS

Article 66

(1) A legal person shall be guilty of an offence and liable to a fine from HRK 50.000,00 to HRK 100.000,00 for:

1. killing animals, subjecting them to pain, suffering and injury, and intentionally exposing them to fear (Article 4, paragraph 1),
2. raising animals in a way that causes them pain, suffering and distress and intentionally injuring them (Article 4, paragraph 2, item 1),
3. importing or selling animals raised in the way referred to in Article 4, paragraph 2, item 1 of this Act (Article 4, paragraph 2, item 2),
4. increasing aggressiveness of animals through selection or other methods (Article 4, paragraph 2, item 3),
5. inciting animals against another animals or humans or training them to be aggressive, except when training working dogs and hunting dogs under the supervision of qualified persons (Article 4, paragraph 2, item 4),
6. training animals to fight, organising animal fights, participating in such fights, attending or advertising them and

- organising and participating in betting in relation to such fights (Article 4, paragraph 2, item 5),
7. organising dog races on hard surfaces (Article 4, paragraph 2, item 8),
 8. giving stimulants or other unauthorised substances to animals in order to improve their performance in sports competitions and shows (Article 4, paragraph 2, item 9),
 9. giving unauthorised stimulants and substances to animals in order to enhance their growth and weight gain (Article 4, paragraph 2, item 10),
 10. forcing an animal into a behaviour that obviously causes it pain, suffering, injury or fear (Article 4, paragraph 2, item 12),
 11. giving animals food or substances the ingestion of which causes pain, suffering, injury, fear or death (Article 4, paragraph 2, item 14),
 12. acting in contravention of the provision of Article 4, paragraph 2, item 17 of this Act,
 13. acting in contravention of the provision of Article 4, paragraph 2, item 22 of this Act,
 14. acting in contravention of the provision of Article 4, paragraph 2, item 23 of this Act,
 15. inflicting pain, suffering or injury upon animals during their training (Article 5, item 3),
 16. performing interventions on animals in contravention of the provisions of Article 8 of this Act,
 17. humanely killing animals contrary to the provisions of Article 9 of this Act,
 18. transporting animals contrary to the provisions of Article 12, paragraph 2 of this Act,
 19. carrying out its activity contrary to the provisions of Article 13, item 1 of this Act,
 20. acting in contravention of the provision of Article 17 of this Act,
 21. using stunning equipment or methods contrary to the provision of Article 18, paragraph 3 of this Act,
 22. humanely killing an animal contrary to the provision of Article 19, paragraph 1 of this Act,
 23. emergency slaughter and slaughter according to religious rite being carried out contrary to the provisions of Article 19, paragraphs 4 and 5 of this Act,
 24. failing to meet the requirements determined by the provisions of Article 20, paragraph 3 of this Act,
 25. carrying out experiments contrary to the provisions of Article 25, paragraph 1 of this Act,
 26. carrying out experiments contrary to the provisions of Article 26, paragraphs 1, 4 and 5 of this Act,
 27. carrying out experiments contrary to the provisions of Article 27 of this Act,
 28. acting in contravention of the provision of Article 30 of this Act,
 29. acting in contravention of the provisions of Article 31 of this Act,
 30. carrying out experiments contrary to the provisions of Article 32 of this Act,
 31. using animals for the production of biological preparations without having authorisation from the competent authority (Article 33, paragraph 3).

(2) The responsible person of the legal person shall be fined from HRK 10.000,00 to HRK 15.000,00 for committing an offence from paragraph 1 of this Article.

(3) A natural person shall be fined from HRK 10.000,00 to HRK 15.000,00 for committing an offence from paragraph 1 of this Article.

(4) In addition to a fine imposed on a natural person for an offence referred to in paragraph 1, item 1, of this Article, committed in relation to a companion animal for the second time, there shall be applied a protective measure of removing the companion animal from the custody of the person concerned and prohibiting that person

from acquiring another animal.

(5) In addition to a fine for an offence referred to in paragraph 1, item 1, of this Article, committed by a legal or natural person during the performance of a commercial activity, a protective measure of prohibiting such person from performing its activity for one year may be applied.

Article 67

(1) A legal person shall be guilty of an offence and liable to a fine from HRK 30.000,00 to HRK 50.000,00 for:

1. giving animals as prizes in games of chance (Article 4, paragraph 2, item 6),
2. using technical devices, aids or tools aimed at controlling animal behaviour by punishment, including prong collars or training devices involving the use of electric current or chemical substances, except when training working dogs (Article 4, paragraph 2, item 7),
3. using animals in circuses and other shows, film and television productions, advertisements, exhibitions or competitions contrary to the provisions of Article 4, paragraph 2, item 11 of this Act,
4. exposing animals to adverse temperatures and weather conditions, contrary to accepted animal hygiene standards for individual animal species, or to lack of oxygen, thus causing them pain, suffering, injury or fear (Article 4, paragraph 2, item 13),
5. acting in contravention of the provision of Article 4, paragraph 2, item 15 of this Act,
6. acting in contravention of the provision of Article 4, paragraph 2, item 16 of this Act,
7. using unauthorised traps to catch animals (Article 4, paragraph 2, item 18),
8. feeding live animals to other animals unless unavoidable (Article 4, paragraph 2, item 19),
9. using live animals as hunting bait (Article 4, paragraph 2, item 20),
10. restricting the movement of an animal in a way that causes it pain, suffering, injury or fear (Article 4, paragraph 2, item 21),
11. abandoning a domestic animal, a companion animal or a raised wild animal or other animal kept under human control (Article 5, item 1),
12. exposing a raised or cultivated wild animal to the wild or settling it in the wild, unless it is prepared for survival in such environment (Article 5, item 2),
13. acting in contravention of the provision of Article 6 of this Act,
14. acting in contravention of the provision of Article 7 of this Act,
15. acting in contravention of the provision of Article 10 of this Act,
16. transporting animals contrary to the provision of Article 11, paragraph 1 of this Act,
17. transporting animals contrary to the provision of Article 12, paragraph 1 of this Act,
18. carrying out its activity contrary to the provisions of Article 13, items 2 and 3 of this Act,
19. carrying out its activity contrary to the provisions of Article 14 of this Act,
20. carrying out its activity contrary to the provisions of Article 15 of this Act,
21. carrying out its activity contrary to the conditions determined by the provision of Article 16 of this Act,
22. handling animals in a slaughterhouse contrary to the provisions of Article 18, paragraphs 1 and 2 of this Act,
23. stunning and killing animals contrary to the provision of Article 19, paragraph 3 of this Act,
24. acting in contravention of the provision of Article 19, paragraph 5 of this Act,
25. failing to meet the requirements determined by the provision of Article 19, paragraph 6 of this Act,

26. animals used for experimental purposes and for the production of biological preparations are not marked as required by the provision of Article 21 of this Act,
27. legal persons breeding animals for use in experiments and for the production of biological preparations for carrying out their activity contrary to the provision of Article 22, paragraph 1 of this Act,
28. acting in contravention of the provision of Article 22, paragraph 2 of this Act,
29. using animals for the production of biological preparations without authorisation (Article 22, paragraph 3),
30. failing to meet the requirements determined by the provision of Article 22, paragraph 5 of this Act,
31. acting in contravention of the provision of Article 29, paragraph 1 of this Act,
32. persons referred to in Article 37, paragraph 1 of this Act are not trained or do not have equivalent experience,
33. failing to meet the requirements of Article 37, paragraph 4 of this Act,
34. acting in contravention of the provisions of Article 38 of this Act,
35. acting in contravention of the provisions of Article 39 of this Act,
36. acting in contravention of the provisions of Article 40 of this Act,
37. animal buildings and enclosures and equipment do not meet the requirements of Article 41 of this Act,
38. acting in contravention of the provision of Article 42 of this Act,
39. acting in contravention of the provisions of Article 43 of this Act,
40. acting in contravention of the provisions of Article 44 of this Act,
41. keeping wild animals contrary to the requirements determined by Article 45, paragraph 1 of this Act,
42. treating wild animals in nature contrary to the provisions of Article 46 of this Act,
43. treating wild animals in nature contrary to the provisions of Article 47 of this Act,
44. acting in contravention of the provisions of Article 48, paragraphs 1 to 7 of this Act,
45. acting in contravention of the provisions of Article 49, paragraph 1, and failing to meet the requirements determined by Article 49, paragraph 3 of this Act,
46. carrying out its activity without having obtained a decision confirming the fulfilment of requirements referred to in Article 50, paragraph 2 of this Act,
47. failing to meet the requirements determined by the provision of Article 50, paragraph 4 of this Act,
48. a zoological garden operates without having obtained a decision (Article 51, paragraph 1),
49. failing to meet the requirements determined by Article 51, paragraph 3 of this Act,
50. a zoological garden operates contrary to the provision of Article 52, paragraph 1 of this Act,
51. treating animals contrary to the provisions of Article 53, paragraphs 1 and 2 of this Act,
52. acting in contravention of the provision of Article 53, paragraph 3 of this Act,
53. failing to meet the requirements determined by the provision of Article 53, paragraph 7 of this Act,
54. acting in contravention of the provision of Article 54, paragraph 1 of this Act,
55. acting in contravention of the provisions of Article 55, paragraphs 1, 2 and 6 of this Act,
56. failing to meet the requirements determined by the provision of Article 55, paragraph 7 of this Act,
57. carrying its activity without having obtained a decision confirming the fulfilment of requirements referred to in Article 56, paragraph 2 of this Act,
58. acting in contravention of the provisions of Article 57 of this Act,
59. acting in contravention of the provision of Article 58, paragraph 1, and failing to meet the requirements

determined by Article 58, paragraph 4 of this Act,

60. failing to permit the veterinary inspection service access to animal houses and enclosures and failing to permit inspection of the health status of the animals, as provided for in Article 58, paragraph 3 of this Act,

61. acting in contravention of the provisions of Article 59, paragraphs 2 to 4 of this Act,

62. carrying out its activity without the decision provided for in Article 59, paragraph 5 of this Act,

63. failing to meet the requirements determined by Article 59, paragraph 7 of this Act.

(2) The responsible person of the legal person shall be fined from HRK 5.000,00 to HRK 10.000,00 for committing an offence from paragraph 1 of this Article.

(3) A natural person shall be fined from HRK 5.000,00 to HRK 15.000,00 for committing an offence from paragraph 1 of this Article.

Article 68

(1) A legal person shall be guilty of an offence and liable to a fine from HRK 5.000,00 to HRK 30.000,00 if:

1. it is not registered for keeping animals (Article 37, paragraph 3),

2. animal shelter staff are acting in contravention of the provision of Article 55, paragraph 3 of this Act,

3. it carries out its activity contrary to the provision of Article 56, paragraph 2 of this Act.

(2) The responsible person of the legal person shall be fined from HRK 500,00 to HRK 5.000,00 for committing an offence from paragraph 1 of this Article.

(3) A natural person shall be fined from HRK 500,00 to HRK 5.000,00 for committing an offence from paragraph 1 of this Article.

V. TRANSITIONAL AND FINAL PROVISIONS

Article 69

(1) The Minister shall, within two years from the entry into force of this Act, issue regulations pursuant to authority granted by this Act.

(2) Pending the entry into force of the regulations referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article, the regulations made under the Animal Welfare Act (Official Gazette 19/99) shall apply, if not in conflict with the provisions of this Act.

(3) Having regard to international treaties in the area of animal protection which are binding to the Republic of Croatia, the Minister may issue implementing regulations necessary to implement the European Union directives on animal protection as well as regulations necessary to apply the European Union regulations covering the same area.

(4) Proceedings initiated prior to the entry into force of this Act shall be completed in accordance with the provisions of the Animal Welfare Act (Official Gazette 19/99).

(5) The provisions of the Act on General Administrative Procedure (Official Gazette 53/91 and 103/96) and the Veterinary Act (Official Gazette 70/97, 105/01 and 172/03) shall apply to the exercise of rights under this Act, unless otherwise prescribed by the provisions of this Act.

Article 70

An animal pound which started operating before the entry into force of this Act may, within two years from the entry into force of this Act, establish an animal shelter in accordance with the provisions of Article 56 of this Act, failing which it shall not be permitted to operate after the expiry of the said period.

Article 71

On the date of entry into force of this Act, the Animal Welfare Act (Official Gazette 19/99) shall cease to have effect.

Article 72

This Act shall enter into force on 1 January 2007, with the exception of Article 39, paragraph 3 of this Act which shall enter into force on 1 January 2012 as regards dairy cows kept tethered, and Article 4, paragraph 2, item 23 of this Act which shall enter into force on 1 January 2017.

Class: 322-01/06-01/01

Zagreb, 1 December 2006

THE CROATIAN PARLIAMENT

The President
of the Croatian Parliament
Vladimir Seks, m.p

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Reactions, Demands and Reports

- 07/12/07 Croatia Violates Provisions Concerning the Protection of Animals
- 07/04/07 Cows' Abuse during a Seizure
- 08/21/06 Cruelty as Tourist Attraction
- 08/07/06 Fester Wounds and the Chain Collar in the Flesh



Animal Friends Croatia was founded with the purpose of promoting the protection and animal rights and presenting vegetarianism as an ethical, ecological, and healthy way of living. Animal Friends Croatia is a member organization of [EVU](#), [WSPA](#) and [ECEAE](#).

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