



**CREATING PAWSIBILITIES....ONE RESCUE AT A TIME**

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## **KEY PROVISIONS OF ANIMAL WELFARE ACT OF 1998 AS AMENDED (THE "ACT")**

### **WHO IS COVERED?**

- Applies to the physical and psychological well-being of ALL Animals.
- Applies to ALL individuals, breeders, breeding facilities or any facilities that keeps, treat or train animals.

### **WHAT ARE CONSIDERED AS ILLEGAL OR FORBIDDEN?**

- Neglect to provide food, shelter, medical care
- Abandonment either temporary or permanent
- Procure to be tortured or to torture
- Subject any animals to animal fights like dogfights.

### **WHAT ARE THE PENALTIES?**

- Imprisonment of up to 2 years
- Fine of up to 100,000 Pesos
- Deportation for foreigners after serving imprisonment
- Imprisonment of up to 3 years and/or a fine of up to 250,000 Pesos shall be imposed to a syndicate, an offender who makes business out of cruelty to an animal, a public officer or employee, where at least three animals are involved.

### **WHAT GOVERNMENT AGENCIES CAN YOU ASK FOR ASSISTANCE?**

- Barangay
- Bureau of Animal Industry (BAI)
- Philippine National Police
- National Bureau of Investigation

### **WHAT ARE THE SIGNS OF ANIMAL CRUELTY?**

- Lack of veterinary care: Untreated wounds are a red flag that demand immediate attention; emaciation, scabs, and hair loss can also be a sign of untreated, underlying diseases.
- Hoarding: A person who keeps far more animals than they can properly care for is a hoarder.
- Inadequate shelter, especially in extreme heat or cold temperatures can be deadly to pets.



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- Chained dogs who are tethered continuously suffer tremendously, both from social isolation and exposure to predators and the elements.
- Abandonment: A startling number of animals die every year when people move out of their residences and simply leave the animals behind. Sometimes, an abandoned dog's barking or cat's howling can alert the neighbors, but it's wise to keep an eye on a recently vacated home, especially if the former residents moved suddenly.

### WHAT TO DO IF YOU WITNESS ANIMAL CRUELTY?

- Take action: Call the authorities immediately. Time is of the essence. Don't delay.
- Document:
  - Take pictures or videos if you safely can. It's an excellent tool in filing a case against animal abusers. Take note of the details such as date, time, location of the alleged crime and the physical descriptions of the individuals involved.
- Execute and sign an affidavit.
- Working with law enforcement:
- Animal welfare groups can work closely with the barangay and local police to investigate and execute search warrants.
- Prepare to testify: A witness' willingness to testify greatly increases the success of prosecution and justice for the abused.

### WHAT ELSE CAN YOU DO TO HELP?

- Do not hurt homeless or abandoned pets. - They are NOT worthless just because they are homeless.
- Slow Down and Stop. - When you are driving any type of transportation, be alert, slow down and stop for an animal crossing the street or sleeping on the side of the street.
- Give them food and water. – Be a blessing to them. That lunch or dinner you did not finish, keep it, put it in a fridge and feed a homeless animal. A little kindness can go a long way.
- Spay/Neuter your pets. – Its healthier for your pets and you also help control animal population.
- When you report to animal welfare groups, provide the following information.
- picture of the injured pet



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- exact location, landmarks, and main intersection
- Your name and contact number
- Donate, Foster, Adopt, Volunteer