

106TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1887

AN ACT

To amend title 18, United States Code, to punish
the depiction of animal cruelty.

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To amend title 18, United States Code, to punish the depiction of animal cruelty.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. PUNISHMENT FOR DEPICTION OF ANIMAL**
2 **CRUELTY.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 3 of title 18, United
4 States Code, is amended by adding at the end the fol-
5 lowing:

6 **“§ 48. Depiction of animal cruelty**

7 “(a) CREATION, SALE, OR POSSESSION.—Whoever
8 knowingly creates, sells, or possesses a depiction of animal
9 cruelty with the intention of placing that depiction in
10 interstate or foreign commerce for commercial gain, shall
11 be fined under this title or imprisoned not more than 5
12 years, or both.

13 “(b) EXCEPTION.—Subsection (a) does not apply to
14 any depiction that has serious religious, political, sci-
15 entific, educational, journalistic, historical, or artistic
16 value.

17 “(c) DEFINITIONS.—In this section—

18 “(1) the term ‘depiction of animal cruelty’
19 means any visual or auditory depiction, including
20 any photograph, motion-picture film, video record-
21 ing, electronic image, or sound recording of conduct
22 in which a living animal is intentionally maimed,
23 mutilated, tortured, wounded, or killed, if such con-
24 duct is illegal under Federal law or the law of the
25 State in which the creation, sale, or possession takes
26 place, regardless of whether the maiming, mutila-

1 tion, torture, wounding, or killing took place in the
2 State; and

3 “(2) the term ‘State’ means each of the several
4 States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth
5 of Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Guam, American
6 Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana
7 Islands, and any other commonwealth, territory, or
8 possession of the United States.”.

9 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections
10 for such chapter is amended by adding at the end the fol-
11 lowing:

“48. Depiction of animal cruelty.”.

Passed the House of Representatives October 19,
1999.

Attest:

Clerk.