

106TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1887

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

OCTOBER 20, 1999

Received

AN ACT

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:

JEFF TRANDAHL,
Clerk.