

115TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 6720

AN ACT

To prohibit the slaughter of dogs and cats for human
consumption, and for other purposes.

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. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Dog and Cat Meat
3 Trade Prohibition Act of 2018”.

4 **SEC. 2. PROHIBITION ON SLAUGHTER OF DOGS AND CATS**5 **FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION.**

6 (a) **IN GENERAL.**—Except as provided in subsection

7 (c), no person may—

8 (1) knowingly slaughter a dog or cat for human
9 consumption; or

10 (2) knowingly ship, transport, move, deliver, re-
11 ceive, possess, purchase, sell, or donate—

12 (A) a dog or cat to be slaughtered for
13 human consumption; or

14 (B) a dog or cat part for human consump-
15 tion.

16 (b) **SCOPE.**—Subsection (a) shall apply only with re-
17 spect to conduct—

18 (1) in interstate commerce or foreign com-
19 merce; or

20 (2) within the special maritime and territorial
21 jurisdiction of the United States.

22 (c) **EXCEPTION FOR INDIAN TRIBES.**—The prohibi-
23 tion in subsection (a) shall not apply to an Indian (as de-
24 fined in section 4 of the Indian Self-Determination and
25 Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 5304)) carrying out

1 any activity described in subsection (a) for the purpose
2 of a religious ceremony.

3 (d) PENALTY.—Any person who violates subsection
4 (a) shall be subject to a fine in an amount not greater
5 than \$5,000 for each violation.

6 (e) EFFECT ON STATE LAW.—Nothing in this sec-
7 tion—

8 (1) limits any State or local law or regulation
9 protecting the welfare of animals; or

10 (2) prevents a State or unit of local government
11 from adopting and enforcing an animal welfare law
12 or regulation that is more stringent than this sec-
13 tion.

Passed the House of Representatives September 12,
2018.

Attest:

Clerk.

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