

Animal Welfare (Sentencing) Bill

EXPLANATORY NOTES

Explanatory notes to the Bill, prepared by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, are published separately as Bill 1-EN.

EUROPEAN CONVENTION ON HUMAN RIGHTS

Secretary Theresa Villiers has made the following statement under section 19(1)(a) of the Human Rights Act 1998:

In my view the provisions of the Animal Welfare (Sentencing) Bill are compatible with the Convention rights.

Animal Welfare (Sentencing) Bill

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B I L L

TO

Make provision about the mode of trial and maximum penalty for certain offences under the Animal Welfare Act 2006.

BE IT ENACTED by the Queen’s most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:—

1 Mode of trial and maximum penalty for certain animal welfare offences

- (1) Section 32 of the Animal Welfare Act 2006 (post-conviction powers: imprisonment or fine) is amended as follows.
- (2) In subsection (1) (penalty for offence under any of sections 4, 5, 6(1) and (2), 7 and 8 of the Animal Welfare Act 2006), for the words from “on summary conviction” to the end substitute “—
 - (a) on summary conviction, to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 12 months, or to a fine, or to both;
 - (b) on conviction on indictment, to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 5 years, or to a fine, or to both.”
- (3) After subsection (4) insert—

“(4A) In relation to an offence committed before the commencement of section 154(1) of the Criminal Justice Act 2003, the reference in subsection (1)(a) to 12 months is to be read as a reference to 6 months.”
- (4) In subsection (5), omit “(1)(a),”.

2 Extent, commencement and short title

- (1) This Act extends to England and Wales only.
- (2) This Act comes into force at the end of the period of two months beginning with the day on which it is passed.
- (3) The amendments made by this Act do not apply to offences committed before this Act comes into force.
- (4) This Act may be cited as the Animal Welfare (Sentencing) Act 2019.

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To make provision about the mode of trial and maximum penalty for certain offences under the Animal Welfare Act 2006.

*Presented by Secretary Theresa Villiers
supported by the Prime Minister
and Zac Goldsmith.*

*Ordered, by The House of Commons,
to be Printed, 15th October 2019.*

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