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Substitute Bill Comparative Synopsis

Sub. H.B. 33

133rd General Assembly

House Criminal Justice

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This table summarizes how the latest substitute version of the bill differs from the immediately preceding version. It addresses only the topics on which the two versions differ substantively. It does not list topics on which the two bills are substantively the same.

Previous Version (As Introduced)	Latest Version (I_133_0271-5)
Animal abuse reporting by specified professionals	
<p>Requires a licensed veterinarian, social service professional, and person licensed under the law governing counselors, social workers, marriage and family therapists, when operating in an official or professional capacity, to report the abuse of a companion animal (dog, cat, or other animal kept in a residence) to an officer, dog warden, or deputy dog warden.</p> <p><i>(R.C. 959.07(B)(1) and (A)(5).)</i></p>	<p>Same, but stipulates that the animal abuse must only be reported to an officer (not a dog warden or deputy dog warden).</p> <p><i>(R.C. 959.07(B)(1) and (A)(5).)</i></p>

Previous Version (As Introduced)	Latest Version (I_133_0271-5)
Animal abuse reporting by officers	
<p>Requires officers (including dog wardens and deputy dog wardens) to report companion animal abuse to an appropriate social service professional when:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The officer has knowledge or reasonable cause to suspect an animal abuse offense has occurred or is occurring; 2. The officer has knowledge or reasonable cause to suspect that a child or older adult resides with the violator. <p><i>(R.C. 959.08.)</i></p>	<p>Same, but in order to trigger the reporting requirement, requires the officer, dog warden, or deputy dog warden to suspect that the violation involving the animal may have an impact on the child or older adult residing with the alleged violator.</p> <p><i>(R.C. 959.08.)</i></p>
Content of animal abuse report	
<p>Requires all reports to include, in part, the name, if known, and a description of the animal involved.</p> <p><i>(R.C. 959.09(A)(1).)</i></p>	<p>Instead requires reports to include a description of the animal involved only if the person reporting has knowledge of the description.</p> <p><i>(R.C. 959.09(A)(1)(a).)</i></p>
<p>No provision.</p>	<p>Allows an officer, dog warden, or deputy dog warden to exclude any information from the report that is confidential or that the officer, dog warden, or deputy dog warden reasonably believes could jeopardize a pending criminal investigation.</p> <p><i>(R.C. 959.09(A)(2).)</i></p>

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Civil penalties and fines	
<p>Specifies that filing a false report is a fourth degree misdemeanor and establishes general civil penalty scheme that applies when a person violates the bill's reporting requirements (\$100 for a first violation, \$500 for each subsequent violation) under which the Attorney General may bring a civil action to enforce the bill.</p> <p><i>(R.C. 959.10(A) and (B).)</i></p>	<p>Retains the criminal penalty for filing a false report, and creates separate enforcement schemes for each type of professional (licensed veterinarians, person licensed under the law governing counselors, social workers, marriage and family therapists, and officers, dog wardens, and deputy dog wardens) required to make reports as follows:</p> <p>Licensed Veterinarians</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. For a first violation of the reporting requirement, requires the Veterinary Medical Licensing Board to issue a confidential warning and explanation of the bill's reporting requirements. 2. For a second violation of the reporting requirement or for knowingly making a false report, requires the Board to impose a civil penalty as follows: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. \$100 for a second violation of the reporting requirement or a first violation of the bill's prohibition against knowingly making a false report; and b. \$500 for any subsequent violation. 3. Authorizes the Board to assess costs for the hearing if civil penalties are imposed, in accordance with current law. <p><i>(R.C. 4741.22.)</i></p> <p>Person licensed under the law governing counselors, social workers, marriage and family therapists</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. For a first violation of the reporting requirement, requires the appropriate professional standards committee of the applicable board to issue a confidential warning and

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	<p>explanation of the bill's reporting requirements.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. For a second or subsequent violation of the reporting requirement or for knowingly making a false report, requires the appropriate professional standards committee of the applicable board to impose a fine as follows: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. \$100 for a second violation of the reporting requirement or a first violation of the bill's prohibition against knowingly making a false report; and b. \$500 for any subsequent violation. <p><i>(R.C. 4757.36.)</i></p> <p>Officers, dog wardens, and deputy dog wardens</p> <p>Requires the entity with responsibility for employment oversight of an officer, dog warden, or deputy dog warden to issue a confidential written warning and explanation of the bill's reporting requirements and does not impose any civil penalties on a violator.</p> <p><i>(R.C. 959.10.)</i></p> <p>Social service professionals</p> <p>For a first or subsequent violation of the bill's reporting requirement, requires the entity with responsibility for employment oversight over the social service professional, as applicable, to issue at minimum a confidential written warning and explanation of the bill's reporting requirements.</p> <p><i>(R.C. 5101.93.)</i></p>

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<p>Requires any money collected from the civil penalties to be deposited in the Domestic Violence Program Fund, to be used to assist victims of domestic violence by arranging temporary shelter or other support for the victims' companion animals. <i>(R.C. 109.46(B).)</i></p>	<p>Requires civil penalties collected by the Veterinary Medical Licensing Board and fines collected by the appropriate professional standards committee of the applicable board to be deposited in the state treasury to the credit of the Occupational Licensing and Regulatory Fund.</p> <p><i>(R.C. 4741.25, not in the bill and 4757.36(H).)</i></p>