

A-Engrossed
House Bill 2500

Ordered by the House March 19
Including House Amendments dated March 19

Sponsored by Representative WILDE; Representatives GOMBERG, HOLVEY, PILUSO, SANCHEZ (Presession filed.)

SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure.

Provides private right of action to recover for expenses in relation to veterinary care for abused domestic animal.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to expenses for veterinary care of abused animals.

3 **Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:**

4 **SECTION 1. (1) As used in this section, "abuse" means an act or omission in violation**
5 **of ORS 167.310 to 167.351 that results in physical injury to a domestic animal.**

6 **(2) A person that provides or ensures the provision of veterinary care for an animal for**
7 **the purpose of addressing the effects of abuse has a private right of action against the person**
8 **inflicting the abuse. A court shall award a plaintiff prevailing in an action under this section**
9 **compensatory damages for all reasonable expenses incurred by the person in relation to**
10 **veterinary care for the abused animal, plus costs and reasonable attorney fees.**

11 **(3) Subsection (2) of this section does not affect the existence of a lien arising under ORS**
12 **87.159 or any petition or order for forfeiture under ORS 167.347.**

13 **(4) When determining whether to require a defendant in a criminal proceeding to pay**
14 **restitution for the cost of veterinary care provided to an injured animal, a court may not**
15 **consider the availability of an action under this section.**

16 **SECTION 2. Section 1 of this 2019 Act applies to veterinary care rendered on or after the**
17 **effective date of this 2019 Act.**

18

NOTE: Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter [*italic and bracketed*] is existing law to be omitted.
New sections are in **boldfaced** type.