2021 -- S 0278

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2021
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A N   A C T

RELATING TO ANIMALS AND ANIMAL HUSBANDRY -- ANIMAL CARE -- USE OF ANIMALS IN MEDICAL TRAINING

Introduced By: Senators Valverde, Ruggerio, Murray, DiMario, and Lawson

Date Introduced: February 10, 2021

Referred To: Senate Health & Human Services

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1   SECTION 1. Chapter 4-19 of the General Laws entitled "Animal Care" is hereby amended

2   by adding thereto the following section:

3   **4-19-11.4. Use of animals in medical training.**

4   (a) An educational program training individuals in the medical treatment of human beings

5   shall not use a live animal in the education or training of students, residents, or physicians if:

6   (1) At least one other accredited training program in the state in the same medical discipline

7   does not use live animals; or

8   (2) There is an alternate teaching method that teaches the medical procedure or lesson

9   without the use of an animal.

10   (b) Any person who violates the provisions of this section shall be guilty of a misdemeanor,

11   and upon conviction shall be fined not more than one thousand dollars ($1,000) for each violation

12   of this section; and provided further, if multiple live animals are used in violation of this section

13   each animal so used shall constitute a separate offense.

14   SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

EXPLANATION

BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

OF

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RELATING TO ANIMALS AND ANIMAL HUSBANDRY -- ANIMAL CARE -- USE OF
ANIMALS IN MEDICAL TRAINING

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1   This act would prohibit a medical training program in this state from using a live animal

2   while teaching medical procedures if at least one other accredited training program in the state in

3   the same medical discipline does not use animals or there is an alternate teaching method that

4   teaches the medical procedure or lesson without the use of an animal.

5   This act would take effect upon passage.

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