

20105242D

SENATE BILL NO. 1030

Senate Amendments in [] - February 7, 2020

A BILL to amend the Code of Virginia by adding in Chapter 65 of Title 3.2 an article numbered 14, consisting of sections numbered 3.2-6594, 3.2-6595, and 3.2-6596, relating to dangerous captive animal exhibits; penalty.

Patrons Prior to Engrossment—Senators Spruill and Ebbin

Referred to Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Natural Resources

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding in Chapter 65 of Title 3.2 an article numbered 14, consisting of sections numbered 3.2-6594, 3.2-6595, and 3.2-6596, as follows:

*Article 14.**Dangerous Captive Animal Exhibits.***§ 3.2-6594. Definitions.**

As used in this article,

"Dangerous captive animal" means any bear, cougar, [~~elephant~~] jaguar, leopard, lion, nonhuman primate, or tiger, or any hybrid of any such animal. "Dangerous captive animal" does not include a clouded leopard.

"Direct contact" means physical contact or proximity where physical contact is possible, including an opportunity for photography without a permanent physical barrier designed to prevent physical contact between the public and a dangerous captive animal.

"Keeper" means any person, as defined in § 1-230, who owns, has custody of, or is in control of a dangerous captive animal.

§ 3.2-6595. Direct contact with dangerous captive animals prohibited.

It is unlawful for any keeper to provide or offer to provide to any individual, for free or for a cost, direct contact with a dangerous captive animal.

§ 3.2-6596. Violation; penalty.

Any person who violates any provision of this article is guilty of a Class 3 misdemeanor and is subject to a fine of not more than \$500.

[2. That the provisions of this act shall become effective on July 1, 2021.]

ENGROSSED

SB1030E