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(Original Signature of Member)

119TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

**H. R.** \_\_\_\_\_

To amend the Animal Welfare Act to provide for the protection of companion animals held or cared for at certain facilities, and for other purposes.

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**IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

Mr. GALLAGHER introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**A BILL**

To amend the Animal Welfare Act to provide for the protection of companion animals held or cared for at certain facilities, and for other purposes.

1       *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2       *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3       **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4       This Act may be cited as “Dunkin’s Law”.

1 **SEC. 2. PROTECTING COMPANION ANIMALS HELD OR**  
2 **CARED FOR AT COMMERCIAL PET FACILI-**  
3 **TIES.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 2(g) of the Animal Wel-  
5 fare Act (7 U.S.C. 2132(g)) is amended by inserting “sen-  
6 tient being,” after “rabbit,”.

7 (b) OTHER DEFINITIONS.—Section 2 of the Animal  
8 Welfare Act (7 U.S.C. 2132) is amended by adding at the  
9 end the following:

10 “(p)(1) The term ‘sentient being’ means a domes-  
11 ticated mammal customarily kept as a household com-  
12 panion, including dogs, cats, and rabbits.

13 “(2) Such term does not include livestock, poultry,  
14 reptiles, amphibians, fish, insects, and arachnids.

15 “(q) The term ‘boarding facility’ means a commercial  
16 establishment that houses companion animals overnight  
17 for compensation.

18 “(r) The term ‘daycare operation’ means a commer-  
19 cial establishment that supervises companion animals dur-  
20 ing daytime hours for compensation.

21 “(s) The term ‘training facility’ means a commercial  
22 establishment that provides behavioral or obedience train-  
23 ing services for companion animals for compensation.

24 “(t) The term ‘commercial pet facility’ means a facil-  
25 ity that provides, with respect to sentient beings, one or  
26 more of the following services:

1 “(1) Boarding.

2 “(2) Daycare.

3 “(3) Training.

4 “(4) Grooming.

5 “(5) Overnight care.

6 “(6) Any other commercial service in which a  
7 companion animal is held or cared for in exchange  
8 for compensation.”.

9 (c) ENFORCEMENT.—Section 19 of the Animal Wel-  
10 fare Act (7 U.S.C. 2149) is amended by adding at the  
11 end the following:

12 “(e)(1) An owner of a sentient being who suffers  
13 harm or neglect or dies while held or cared for by a com-  
14 mercial pet facility may bring an action in the appropriate  
15 Federal court and recover the damages suffered, court  
16 costs, and reasonable attorneys fees and expenses.

17 “(2) An entity described in subparagraph (A) or (B)  
18 of section 28(a)(2) shall be considered a commercial pet  
19 facility for purposes of applying paragraph (1) in any case  
20 in which such entity is convicted for the euthanization of  
21 a sentient being that is conducted in violation of the laws  
22 of the State or locality in which such entity is located.

23 “(3) In this subsection, the term ‘damages suffered’  
24 means the economic and noneconomic damages arising  
25 from the harm, neglect, or death of a sentient being, in-

1 cluding veterinary expenses, replacement value, the sen-  
2 tient being's pain and suffering, and the owner's emotional  
3 distress, as determined by the Federal court in which an  
4 action under paragraph (1) is brought and in such  
5 amounts as may be determined by such court.”.