

Animal (Domestic) Transport

Current:

NRS 574.190 Carrying animals in cruel manner; penalty

A person who carries or causes to be carried in or upon any vessel or vehicle or otherwise any animal in a cruel or inhuman manner, or so as to produce torture, is guilty of a misdemeanor.

[Part 6:75:1873; B § 2487; BH § 4781; C § 4873; RL § 1378; NCL § 3236] + [16:178:1919; 1919 RL p. 3396; NCL § 10584]

Purpose: An Act to protect health, safety of humans and animals transported by vehicles. To protect the safe transport of humans and live domestic animals from injury, illness, pain and suffering each year.

Support: Each year a significant number of animals (mostly dogs) are thrown from the beds of trucks, or interior of vehicles, often killed due to the nature of unsafe transport. No person driving a motor vehicle shall transport any domesticated animal in the back of an open bed vehicle space intended for any load on the vehicle on a public road or highway unless the space is enclosed, which includes having a safety body seat belt harness installed for means of preventing the animal from being discharged, in a manner which will prevent the animal from being discharged, thrown, falling, or jumping from the vehicle. It is unlawful to transport any living animal on the running board, fenders, hood, or other outside part of any vehicle unless enclosed and restrained as such to prevent the animal from falling or being thrown from open truck beds. While operating a motor vehicle, no person shall hold in the person's lap, or allow to be in the driver's immediate area, any person, animal, or object which interferes with the driver's control of the driving mechanism of the vehicle. In addition, no animal may be transported in a backpack of a motorcyclist for any reason.

Domestic animals being transported:

- Are secured in the cabin of the motor vehicle; and
- Are under the physical control of a person other than the operator of the vehicle and older than 18 years of age; and
- Are placed inside the motor vehicle and secured by a safety body restraining harness manufactured for restraining animals by means other than neck restraints.

Proposed legislative action:

1. Add statute under 574 and include the following violations of this section:
 - Add statute, penalty and addition to NRS.574 – transporting animal(s) in cruel manner, domestic animals are kept and transported in the cabin area of the motor vehicle and are secured with a safety restraining harness for animals.
 - Be punished by a fine of not more than \$800 for a first offense, by a fine of not more than \$1,200 for a second offense and by a fine of not more than \$1,600 for a third or subsequent offense;
 - Prohibit the transport of humans or domestic animals in the open bed of a vehicle; and
 - Require a simple safety harness and transport in the interior of the cabin of the vehicle.

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