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State of Minnesota

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

EIGHTY-EIGHTH SESSION

H. F. No. 2955

03/12/2014 Authored by Mullery

The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Agriculture Policy

1.1 A bill for an act
1.2 relating to public safety; authorizing authorities to remove animals found in
1.3 activity of animal fighting; amending Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 343.31,
1.4 subdivision 4.

1.5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

1.6 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 343.31, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

1.7 Subd. 4. **Peace officer duties.** Animals described in subdivisions 2 and 3 are
1.8 dangerous weapons and constitute an immediate danger to the safety of humans. A peace
1.9 officer or animal control authority may remove, shelter, and care for an animal found in
1.10 the circumstances described in subdivision 1, 2, or 3. If necessary, a peace officer or
1.11 animal control authority may deliver the animal to another person to be sheltered and
1.12 cared for. In all cases, the peace officer or animal control authority must immediately
1.13 notify the owner, if known, as provided in subdivision 5. The peace officer, animal control
1.14 authority, or other person assuming care of the animal shall have a lien on it for the actual
1.15 cost of care and keeping of the animal. If the owner or custodian is unknown and cannot
1.16 by reasonable effort be ascertained, or does not, within ten days after notice, redeem the
1.17 animal by paying the expenses authorized by this subdivision, the animal may be disposed
1.18 of as provided in subdivision 5.