

CHAPTER 55—S.F.No. 294

An act relating to animals; providing civil and criminal penalties for the unauthorized release of research animals; amending Minnesota Statutes 1988, section 346.56, subdivision 2; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 609; repealing Minnesota Statutes 1988, section 346.56, subdivision 1.

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

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 1988, section 346.56, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **LIABILITY FOR DAMAGES.** A person who without permission releases an animal lawfully confined for science, research, commerce, or education is liable; (1) to the owner of the animal for damages and, including the costs of restoring the animal to confinement and to its health condition prior to release; and (2) for damage to personal and real property caused by the released animal. If the release causes the failure of an experiment, the person is liable for all costs of repeating the experiment, including replacement of the animals, labor, and materials.

Sec. 2. **[609.552] UNAUTHORIZED RELEASE OF ANIMALS.**

A person who intentionally and without permission releases an animal lawfully confined for science, research, commerce, or education is guilty of a misdemeanor. A second or subsequent offense by the same person is a gross misdemeanor.

Sec. 3. **REPEALER.**

Minnesota Statutes 1988, section 346.56, subdivision 1, is repealed.

Sec. 4. **EFFECTIVE DATE.**

Sections 2 and 3 are effective August 1, 1989, and apply to crimes committed on or after that date.

Presented to the governor April 25, 1989

Signed by the governor April 26, 1989, 6:20 p.m.

CHAPTER 56—H.F.No. 424

An act relating to commerce; unclaimed property; providing for the ownership of metal dies and molds; amending Minnesota Statutes 1988, section 345.20, subdivision 1.

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

New language is indicated by underline, deletions by ~~strikeout~~.