

Senate File 479 - Introduced

SENATE FILE 479
BY COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

(SUCCESSOR TO SF 319)

A BILL FOR

1 An Act providing for the possession of cats classified as
2 bengals and savannahs.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 717F.1, subsection 5, paragraph b, Code
2 2011, is amended to read as follows:

3 b. "*Dangerous wild animal*" includes an animal which is the
4 offspring of an animal provided in paragraph "a", and another
5 animal provided in that paragraph or any other animal. It also
6 includes animals which are the offspring of each subsequent
7 generation. However, a dangerous wild animal does not include
8 any of the following:

9 (1) The offspring of a domestic dog and a wolf, or the
10 offspring from each subsequent generation in which at least one
11 parent is a domestic dog.

12 (2) The offspring of a domestic cat and another member of
13 the family felidae classified as any of the following:

14 (a) A bengal with an ancestor classified as an Asian leopard
15 cat which is a member of the species *prionailurus bengalensis*.
16 The bengal must be the fourth or later filial generation of
17 offspring with the first filial generation being the offspring
18 of a domestic cat and an Asian leopard cat, and each subsequent
19 generation being the offspring of a domestic cat.

20 (b) A savannah with an ancestor classified as a serval which
21 is a member of the species *leptailurus serval*. The savannah
22 must be the fourth or later filial generation of offspring
23 with the first filial generation being the offspring of a
24 domestic cat and serval, and each subsequent generation being
25 the offspring of a domestic cat.

26 EXPLANATION

27 GENERAL. This bill amends Code chapter 717F, which
28 regulates the possession of dangerous wild animals under
29 the authority of the department of agriculture and land
30 stewardship. Generally, the Code chapter prohibits a
31 person from owning or possessing a dangerous wild animal
32 or transporting a dangerous wild animal into this state
33 unless the person is licensed by the United States department
34 of agriculture and registered by the Iowa department of
35 agriculture and land stewardship. A dangerous animal includes

1 cats (classified as belonging to the family felidae) other than
2 domestic cats. It also includes the offspring of a dangerous
3 wild animal and any subsequent generation of offspring.

4 EXEMPTING CATS CLASSIFIED AS F-4 BENGALS AND SAVANNAHS. The
5 bill provides an exemption for a cat classified as a bengal
6 which is a cross between a domestic cat and an Asian leopard
7 cat or classified as a savannah which is a cross between a
8 domestic cat and a serval. In both cases the bill requires
9 a separation of four filial generations between the Asian
10 leopard cat or serval and the exempted cat. The generations
11 are calculated by counting from the first filial generation
12 which is the offspring of the original crossing. The filial
13 generations are sometimes referred to as F-1 through F-4 to
14 identify the first four filial generations of offspring. The
15 bill's exemption applies to those cats classified as F-4
16 bengals and savannahs.