

# STATE OF NEW YORK

4613

2025-2026 Regular Sessions

## IN SENATE

February 10, 2025

Introduced by Sen. WEIK -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Children and Families

AN ACT to amend the family court act, the criminal procedure law and the domestic relations law, in relation to an order of protection with respect to companion animals

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

1 Section 1. Subdivision 1 of section 352.3 of the family court act, as  
2 amended by chapter 261 of the laws of 2020, is amended to read as  
3 follows:

4 (1) Upon the issuance of an order pursuant to section 315.3 or the  
5 entry of an order of disposition pursuant to section 352.2, a court may  
6 enter an order of protection against any respondent for good cause  
7 shown. The order may require that the respondent: (a) stay away from the  
8 home, school, business or place of employment of the victims of the  
9 alleged offense; or (b) refrain from harassing, intimidating, threaten-  
10 ing or otherwise interfering with the victim or victims of the alleged  
11 offense and such members of the family or household of such victim or  
12 victims as shall be specifically named by the court in such order; or  
13 (c) refrain from intentionally injuring or killing, without justifica-  
14 tion, any companion animal the respondent knows to be owned, possessed,  
15 leased, kept or held by the [~~person protected by the order~~] petitioner  
16 or a minor child residing in [~~such person's~~] the petitioner's or  
17 respondent's household; or (d) refrain from remotely controlling any  
18 connected devices affecting the home, vehicle or property of the person  
19 protected by the order. Such order may also grant the petitioner the  
20 exclusive care, custody or control of any animal that is owned,  
21 possessed, leased, kept or held by the petitioner, the respondent or a  
22 minor child residing in the residence or household of the petitioner or  
23 respondent, and order the respondent to stay away from the animal and  
24 forbid the respondent from taking, transferring, concealing, harming, or

EXPLANATION--Matter in italics (underscored) is new; matter in brackets  
[-] is old law to be omitted.

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1 otherwise disposing of the animal. "Companion animal", as used in this  
2 subdivision, shall have the same meaning as in subdivision five of  
3 section three hundred fifty of the agriculture and markets law.  
4 "Connected device", as used in this subdivision, shall mean any device,  
5 or other physical object that is capable of connecting to the internet,  
6 directly or indirectly, and that is assigned an internet protocol  
7 address or bluetooth address.

8 § 2. Paragraph 1 of subdivision (h) of section 446 of the family court  
9 act, as amended by chapter 526 of the laws of 2013, is amended to read  
10 as follows:

11 1. to refrain from intentionally injuring or killing, without justi-  
12 fication, any companion animal the respondent knows to be owned,  
13 possessed, leased, kept or held by the [~~person protected by the order~~]  
14 petitioner or a minor child residing in [~~such person's~~] the petitioner's  
15 or respondent's household. Such order may also grant the petitioner the  
16 exclusive care, custody or control of any animal that is owned,  
17 possessed, leased, kept or held by the petitioner, the respondent or a  
18 minor child residing in the residence or household of the petitioner or  
19 the respondent, and order the respondent to stay away from the animal  
20 and forbid the respondent from taking, transferring, concealing, harm-  
21 ing, or otherwise disposing of the animal.

22 § 3. Paragraph 1 of subdivision (i) of section 551 of the family court  
23 act, as amended by chapter 526 of the laws of 2013, is amended to read  
24 as follows:

25 1. to refrain from intentionally injuring or killing, without justi-  
26 fication, any companion animal the respondent knows to be owned,  
27 possessed, leased, kept or held by the [~~person protected by the order~~]  
28 petitioner or a minor child residing in [~~such person's~~] the petitioner's  
29 or respondent's household. Such order may also grant the petitioner the  
30 exclusive care, custody or control of any animal that is owned,  
31 possessed, leased, kept or held by the petitioner, the respondent or a  
32 minor child residing in the residence or household of the petitioner or  
33 the respondent, and order the respondent to stay away from the animal  
34 and forbid the respondent from taking, transferring, concealing, harm-  
35 ing, or otherwise disposing of the animal.

36 § 4. Paragraph 1 of subdivision (i) of section 656 of the family court  
37 act, as amended by chapter 526 of the laws of 2013, is amended to read  
38 as follows:

39 1. to refrain from intentionally injuring or killing, without justi-  
40 fication, any companion animal the respondent knows to be owned,  
41 possessed, leased, kept or held by the petitioner or a minor child  
42 residing in the petitioner's or respondent's household. Such order may  
43 also grant the petitioner the exclusive care, custody or control of any  
44 animal that is owned, possessed, leased, kept or held by the petitioner,  
45 the respondent or a minor child residing in the residence or household  
46 of the petitioner or the respondent, and order the respondent to stay  
47 away from the animal and forbid the respondent from taking, trans-  
48 ferring, concealing, harming, or otherwise disposing of the animal.

49 § 5. Paragraph 1 of subdivision (h) of section 759 of the family court  
50 act, as amended by chapter 261 of the laws of 2020, is amended to read  
51 as follows:

52 1. to refrain from intentionally injuring or killing, without justi-  
53 fication, any companion animal the respondent knows to be owned,  
54 possessed, leased, kept or held by the [~~person protected by the order~~]  
55 petitioner or a minor child residing in [~~such person's~~] the petitioner's  
56 or respondent's household. Such order may also grant the petitioner the

1 exclusive care, custody or control of any animal that is owned,  
2 possessed, leased, kept or held by the petitioner, the respondent or a  
3 minor child residing in the residence or household of the petitioner or  
4 the respondent, and order the respondent to stay away from the animal  
5 and forbid the respondent from taking, transferring, concealing, harm-  
6 ing, or otherwise disposing of the animal.

7 § 6. Paragraph 1 of subdivision (i) of section 842 of the family court  
8 act, as amended by chapter 335 of the laws of 2019, is amended to read  
9 as follows:

10 1. to refrain from intentionally injuring or killing, without justi-  
11 fication, any companion animal the respondent knows to be owned,  
12 possessed, leased, kept or held by the petitioner or a minor child  
13 residing in the petitioner's or respondent's household. Such order may  
14 also grant the petitioner the exclusive care, custody or control of any  
15 animal that is owned, possessed, leased, kept or held by the petitioner,  
16 the respondent or a minor child residing in the residence or household  
17 of the petitioner or the respondent, and order the respondent to stay  
18 away from the animal and forbid the respondent from taking, trans-  
19 ferring, concealing, harming, or otherwise disposing of the animal.

20 § 7. Subparagraph 1 of paragraph (g) of subdivision 1 of section 1056  
21 of the family court act, as amended by chapter 526 of the laws of 2013,  
22 is amended to read as follows:

23 1. to refrain from intentionally injuring or killing, without justi-  
24 fication, any companion animal the respondent knows to be owned,  
25 possessed, leased, kept or held by the [~~person protected by the order~~]  
26 petitioner or a minor child residing in [~~such person's~~] the petitioner's  
27 or respondent's household. Such order may also grant the petitioner the  
28 exclusive care, custody or control of any animal that is owned,  
29 possessed, leased, kept or held by the petitioner, the respondent or a  
30 minor child residing in the residence or household of the petitioner or  
31 the respondent, and order the respondent to stay away from the animal  
32 and forbid the respondent from taking, transferring, concealing, harm-  
33 ing, or otherwise disposing of the animal.

34 § 8. Clause (A) of subparagraph 6 of paragraph (a) of subdivision 1 of  
35 section 530.12 of the criminal procedure law, as amended by chapter 526  
36 of the laws of 2013, is amended to read as follows:

37 (A) to refrain from intentionally injuring or killing, without justi-  
38 fication, any companion animal the defendant knows to be owned,  
39 possessed, leased, kept or held by the victim or a minor child residing  
40 in the victim's or defendant's household. Such order may also grant the  
41 victim the exclusive care, custody or control of any animal that is  
42 owned, possessed, leased, kept or held by the victim, the defendant or a  
43 minor child residing in the residence or household of the victim or the  
44 defendant, and order the defendant to stay away from the animal and  
45 forbid the defendant from taking, transferring, concealing, harming, or  
46 otherwise disposing of the animal.

47 § 9. Subparagraph 1 of paragraph (c) of subdivision 1 of section  
48 530.13 of the criminal procedure law, as amended by chapter 261 of the  
49 laws of 2020, is amended to read as follows:

50 1. to refrain from intentionally injuring or killing, without justi-  
51 fication, any companion animal the defendant knows to be owned,  
52 possessed, leased, kept or held by such victim or victims or a minor  
53 child residing in such victim's or victims' household. Such order may  
54 also grant the victim the exclusive care, custody or control of any  
55 animal that is owned, possessed, leased, kept or held by the victim, the  
56 defendant or a minor child residing in the residence or household of the

1 victim or the defendant, and order the defendant to stay away from the  
2 animal and forbid the defendant from taking, transferring, concealing,  
3 harming, or otherwise disposing of the animal.

4 § 10. Subparagraph 7 of paragraph a of subdivision 3 of section 240 of  
5 the domestic relations law, as amended by chapter 526 of the laws of  
6 2013, is amended to read as follows:

7 (7) to refrain from intentionally injuring or killing, without justi-  
8 fication, any companion animal the respondent knows to be owned,  
9 possessed, leased, kept or held by the [~~person protected by the order~~]  
10 petitioner or a minor child residing in [~~such person's~~] the petitioner's  
11 or respondent's household. Such order may also grant the petitioner the  
12 exclusive care, custody or control of any animal that is owned,  
13 possessed, leased, kept or held by the petitioner, the respondent or a  
14 minor child residing in the residence or household of the petitioner or  
15 the respondent, and order the respondent to stay away from the animal  
16 and forbid the respondent from taking, transferring, concealing, harm-  
17 ing, or otherwise disposing of the animal. "Companion animal," as used  
18 in this section, shall have the same meaning as in subdivision five of  
19 section three hundred fifty of the agriculture and markets law;

20 § 11. Paragraph (g) of subdivision 1 of section 252 of the domestic  
21 relations law, as amended by chapter 526 of the laws of 2013, is amended  
22 to read as follows:

23 (g) to refrain from intentionally injuring or killing, without justi-  
24 fication, any companion animal the respondent knows to be owned,  
25 possessed, leased, kept or held by the [~~person protected by the order~~]  
26 petitioner or a minor child residing in [~~such person's~~] the petitioner's  
27 or respondent's household. Such order may also grant the petitioner the  
28 exclusive care, custody or control of any animal that is owned,  
29 possessed, leased, kept or held by the petitioner, the respondent or a  
30 minor child residing in the residence or household of the petitioner or  
31 the respondent, and order the respondent to stay away from the animal  
32 and forbid the respondent from taking, transferring, concealing, harm-  
33 ing, or otherwise disposing of the animal. "Companion animal," as used  
34 in this section, shall have the same meaning as in subdivision five of  
35 section three hundred fifty of the agriculture and markets law;

36 § 12. This act shall take effect immediately.