KENTUCKY YMCA YOUTH ASSOCIATION **KENTUCKY YOUTH ASSEMBLY** **Premiere Bill**	**Blue | Bill # HBP 11** **Referred to Committee:** **House 2**
Authors: Cassie Jones, Macy Jones, Jalen Story, Amanda Miller	**Action on the Bill**
School: Presentation Academy	**House** ____ ☐ Passed ____ ☐ Defeated **Senate** ____ ☐ Passed ____ ☐ Defeated
City: Louisville	

An act to increase the minimum penalty for animal abuse.

Be it enacted by the Youth Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky

Section 1: Currently in the Commonwealth of Kentucky, people who choose to abuse and neglect animals face very minimal punishment. We propose that harsher laws be put in place to discourage the mistreatment of animals.

Section 2: A person found guilty of animal cruelty, abuse, neglect, or abandonment of any degree will not be allowed to own any animals of the same species for the next 2 years. They also must compete a class on animal care that will be administered by the Kentucky Humane Society.

Section 3: Any licensed veterinarian who is practicing in the state of Kentucky who suspects abuse of an animal will be required to report the situation to the police.

Section 4: Currently, under Kentucky law, only animal cruelty leading to death is considered a felony and the maximum fine is $500 (lowest in the country). This act will raise the severity of extreme neglect and abandonment of animals to a felony as well, and raise the maximum fine to $15,000 (average fine in the United States).

Section 5: Any money raised by this bill will go to supporting the Kentucky Humane Society and local animal shelters.

Section 6: This act will go into effect January 2015.