

Other States Have Already Done This. Illinois Has Not.

Illinois is not leading on this issue. It is falling behind. Several states have already enacted the reforms Shelly's Law is asking for.

Florida On a second or subsequent felony animal torture conviction, Florida law requires a mandatory minimum of 6 months incarceration to be served at 100 percent. No early release, no parole, no home monitoring credit. (Fla. Stat. §828.12)

Washington State Enacted in 2024, Washington's updated animal cruelty law imposes mandatory jail time of 30 to 60 days for first-time felony offenders, with significantly longer sentences for repeat or egregious cases.

Nevada Updated in 2025, Nevada law increases prison time for animal cruelty causing serious harm or death to up to 6 years and strengthens sentencing accountability.

Georgia Georgia courts have demonstrated the willingness to impose consecutive sentences for multiple animal victims, treating each animal as a separate count. This is the very reform Shelly's Law seeks for Illinois.

Illinois serves animal torture sentences at 50 percent. Florida serves them at 100 percent. The gap is not a matter of opinion. It is written into the statutes. Shelly's Law would begin to close it.