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(Wyo.)- Bill Would Punish Animal Rights Activists



By: Jeremy Anderson Posted at: 01/30/2013 03:17 PM

CHEYENNE, Wyo. (AP) - A bill that would punish activists who secretly videotape animal cruelty at farms is advancing in Wyoming.

House Bill 126 introduced by Rep. Sue Wallis', R-Recluse, would make it a misdemeanor to record video or audio at a farm under false pretenses. A House committee voted 6-3 Tuesday to send it to the floor for debate.

Animal rights activists say the bill would prevent whistleblowers from exposing the mistreatment of animals.

The Humane Society last summer released what it said is an undercover video showing workers abusing pigs at Wyoming Premium Farms in Wheatland. The video shot by an activist posing as an employee and the ensuing investigation by authorities resulted in misdemeanor charges against nine former workers.