

**THE LAW OF THE REPUBLIC OF LITHUANIA ON THE WELFARE AND
PROTECTION OF ANIMALS NO. VIII-500 LAW AMENDING ARTICLES 4, 10, 12 AND
19**

No. of 2024

Vilnius

Article 1 Amendment to Article 4

Article 4(2)(9) shall be amended to read as follows:

‘(9) veterinary procedures in order to change the appearance or physiological functions of animals (cutting of ears, beards, crests, beaks, tails, damaging or removal of vocal cords, horns, nails, wings, hooves and fangs, plucking or otherwise removing feathers, etc.) in violation of the structure of parts of the animal’s body, soft tissues or bones, except in the case of castration of animals and other cases provided for in legislation or veterinary procedures, carried out by veterinarian’s written decision on the health of the animal;’.

Article 2. Amendment to Article 10

Article 10(5) shall be amended to read as follows:

‘5. The breeding of genetically unhealthy pet animals with clearly visible genetic diseases, malformations, pathologies or pet animals which have been carried out veterinary procedures listed in Article 4(2)(9) of this Law shall be prohibited.’

Article 3. Amendment to Article 12

Article 12 shall be supplemented with paragraph 5¹ to read as follows:

‘5¹. The sale or other transfer of ownership of pet animals which have been carried out veterinary procedures listed in Article 4(2)(9) of this Law shall be prohibited.’

Article 4. Amendment to Article 19

Article 19(5) shall be amended to read as follows:

‘5. It is forbidden to exhibit genetically unhealthy pet animals with clearly visible genetic diseases, malformations, pathologies or pet animals which have been carried out veterinary procedures listed in Article 4(2)(9) of this Law.’

Article 5. Entry into force, implementation and application of the Law

1. This law, with the exception of paragraph 2 of this Article, enters into force on 1 November 2024.
2. The State Food and Veterinary Service shall adopt legal acts implementing this Law by 31 October 2024.
3. The provisions of Article 4(2)(9), Article 10(5), Article 12(5¹) and Article 19(5) of the Law of the Republic of Lithuania on the Welfare and Protection of Animals set out in Articles 1 to 4 of this Law shall not apply to pet animals for which the veterinary procedures referred to in Article 4(2)(9) of the Law on the Welfare and Protection of Animals were carried out before 1 January 2013 in order to change the appearance of pet animals or their physiological functions.

I hereby promulgate this Law adopted by the Republic of Lithuania.

President of the Republic

Submitted by

Aistė Gedvilienė,

Chair of the Environmental Protection Committee