STATE OF ARIZONA
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

DOUGLAS A. DUCEY
GOVERNOR

EXECUTIVE OFFICE

March 30, 2015

The Honorable David Gowan
Speaker of the House
Arizona State House of Representatives
1700 W. Washington
Phoenix, AZ 85007

RE: House Bill 2150 (livestock or poultry cruelty; exception; violation; 5 classification; definition)

Dear Speaker Gowan:

Today I issued my first veto – House Bill 2150.

I know we all agree that animal cruelty is inexcusable, unacceptable and absolutely will not be tolerated in the state of Arizona. No animal should be the victim of abuse. Moreover, perpetrators must be held to account and properly penalized to the fullest extent of the law.

While the sponsors and supporters of this bill are well-intentioned, when changing state laws relating to the safety and well-being of animals, we must ensure that all animals are protected, and mindful that increasing protections for one class of animals does not inadvertently undercut protections for another.

I am open to working with the sponsors on this issue moving forward, while ensuring the protection of animals in our state.

Sincerely,

Douglas A. Ducey
Governor
State of Arizona

cc: The Honorable Andy Biggs
The Honorable Brenda Barton

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