

PUPILS' RIGHTS TO REFRAIN FROM THE HARMFUL OR DESTRUCTIVE USE OF ANIMALS

Live and preserved animals play an important role in science education. The humane treatment of live animals in classroom settings is of utmost importance. Further, the use of dissections of preserved or dead specimens in science classrooms enable students to gain fine motor manipulative laboratory skills and the attendant safety procedures. These skills and acquired knowledge empower students with valuable tools and increased self-confidence for continued success in future science courses.

Parents of students who are taking courses where live or preserved animals or animal parts are utilized for study, including dissection, shall be provided proper notification as required by law. Such notification should allow for excusing the students from the project or providing for an alternative project when a moral objection is registered.

LEGAL REFERENCE**CALIFORNIA EDUCATION CODE**

32255 et seq. Pupils' Rights to Refrain from the Harmful or Destructive Use of Animals
48980 Required Notification of Rights; Time of Notification
51540 Treatment of Animals

