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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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SENATE BILL

No. 612 Session of  
2017

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INTRODUCED BY BROWNE, ALLOWAY, GREENLEAF, COSTA, SABATINA,  
HUGHES, WARD, SCAVELLO, KILLION, LEACH, YUDICHAK,  
TARTAGLIONE, DINNIMAN, BOSCOLA, BLAKE, FARNESE AND FONTANA,  
APRIL 13, 2017

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REFERRED TO JUDICIARY, APRIL 13, 2017

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AN ACT

1 Amending Title 18 (Crimes and Offenses) of the Pennsylvania  
2 Consolidated Statutes, in riot, disorderly conduct and  
3 related offenses, further providing for the offense of  
4 cruelty to animals.

5 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
6 hereby enacts as follows:

7 Section 1. Section 5511(q) of Title 18 of the Pennsylvania  
8 Consolidated Statutes is amended by adding a definition and the  
9 section is amended by adding a subsection to read:

10 § 5511. Cruelty to animals.

11 \* \* \*

12 (c.1) Use of live pigeons for targets at trap shoot or block  
13 shoot prohibited.--

14 (1) A person commits a summary offense if the person  
15 willfully organizes, operates or conducts a trap shoot or  
16 block shoot in which live pigeons are used as targets.

17 (2) Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to  
18 apply to activity which is authorized or permitted under 34

1 Pa.C.S. (relating to game) or a special permit under 58 Pa.  
2 Code Ch. 147 (relating to special permits) or to the training  
3 of dogs for activity which is authorized or permitted under  
4 34 Pa.C.S.

5 \* \* \*

6 (q) Definitions.--As used in this section, the following  
7 words and phrases shall have the meanings given to them in this  
8 subsection:

9 \* \* \*

10 "Trap shoot" or "block shoot." A contest event during which  
11 participants shoot or attempt to shoot targets for either  
12 amusement or as a test of skill in marksmanship that are  
13 launched or otherwise immediately presented to the shooter  
14 either manually or with electronic or mechanical assistance from  
15 a fixed location or locations within a predefined shooting  
16 field.

17 \* \* \*

18 Section 2. This act shall take effect in 60 days.