

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL
No. 2382 Session of
1982

INTRODUCED BY LLOYD, FARGO, BELFANTI, KOWALYSHYN, RYBAK,
McVERRY, HALUSKA, BLAUM, PISTELLA, MICHLOVIC, MICOZZIE AND
PRATT, MARCH 30, 1982

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY, MARCH 30, 1982

AN ACT

1 Amending Title 18 (Crimes and Offenses) of the Pennsylvania
2 Consolidated Statutes, providing for an offense resulting
3 from an attack by a wild animal.

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

6 Section 1. Title 18, act of November 25, 1970 (P.L.707,
7 No.230), known as the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, is
8 amended by adding a section to read:

9 § 2710. Attack by wild animals.

10 (a) Offense defined.--A person owning, possessing or
11 harboring a wild animal who fails to exercise due care in
12 safeguarding the public from attack by it or who recklessly
13 engages in conduct which places or may place another person in
14 danger of attack by the wild animal is guilty of a misdemeanor
15 of the second degree.

16 (b) Previous attacks.--In the prosecution of an alleged
17 offense under this section, it shall not be necessary to prove
18 previous attacks upon a human being by the wild animal or

1 knowledge of the vicious propensities of it on the part of the
2 owner, possessor or harborer thereof. The fact that it has not
3 previously attacked a human being or lack of knowledge of the
4 vicious propensities of such wild animal on the part of the
5 owner, possessor or harborer thereof shall not be a defense to a
6 prosecution hereunder.

7 (c) Definitions.--As used in this section the following word
8 shall have the meaning given to it in this subsection:

9 "Wild animal." Includes bears, coyotes, lions, tigers,
10 leopards, jaguars, cheetahs, cougars, wolves and any crossbreed
11 of such animals which have similar characteristics to those
12 animals.

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