
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 570 Session of
2011

INTRODUCED BY BENNINGHOFF, CAUSER, DAY, FARRY, GABLER, GEIST,
GOODMAN, HARRIS, HEFFLEY, HESS, HUTCHINSON, KAUFFMAN,
KNOWLES, METCALFE, MURT, PYLE, RAPP, READSHAW, K. SMITH,
TALLMAN, VULAKOVICH AND PEIFER, FEBRUARY 9, 2011

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND RURAL AFFAIRS, FEBRUARY
9, 2011

AN ACT

1 Amending the act of December 7, 1982 (P.L.784, No.225),
2 entitled, as amended, "An act relating to dogs, regulating
3 the keeping of dogs; providing for the licensing of dogs and
4 kennels; providing for the protection of dogs and the
5 detention and destruction of dogs in certain cases;
6 regulating the sale and transportation of dogs; declaring
7 dogs to be personal property and the subject of theft;
8 providing for the abandonment of animals; providing for the
9 assessment of damages done to animals; providing for payment
10 of damages by the Commonwealth in certain cases and the
11 liability of the owner or keeper of dogs for such damages;
12 imposing powers and duties on certain State and local
13 officers and employees; providing penalties; and creating a
14 Dog Law Restricted Account," further providing for
15 enforcement of act and inspection.

16 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
17 hereby enacts as follows:

18 Section 1. Section 901(b.2) of the act of December 7, 1982
19 (P.L.784, No.225), known as the Dog Law, amended October 9, 2008
20 (P.L.1450, No.119), is amended to read:

21 Section 901. Enforcement of this act by the secretary;
22 provisions for inspections.

23 * * *

1 (b.2) Limitation on the possession of firearms.--No dog
2 warden or employee of the department shall carry, possess or use
3 a firearm in the performance of duties[.] unless the person has
4 the approval of the secretary and holds a current and valid
5 certification in the use and handling of firearms under any of
6 the following:

7 (1) 53 Pa.C.S. Ch. 21 Subch. D (relating to municipal
8 police education and training).

9 (2) The act of October 10, 1974 (P.L.705, No.235), known
10 as the "Lethal Weapons Training Act."

11 (3) The act of February 9, 1984 (P.L.3, No.2), known as
12 the "Deputy Sheriffs' Education and Training Act."

13 (4) Any other firearms program which has been determined
14 by the Commissioner of the Pennsylvania State Police to be of
15 sufficient scope and duration to provide the participant with
16 basic training in the use and handling of firearms. The
17 department may provide for the firearms training for dog
18 wardens.

19 * * *

20 Section 2. This act shall take effect immediately.