
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 480 Session of
2017

INTRODUCED BY DINNIMAN, BREWSTER, TARTAGLIONE, KILLION,
RAFFERTY, BOSCOLA, COSTA, BROWNE, FARNESE AND WARD,
MARCH 1, 2017

REFERRED TO JUDICIARY, MARCH 1, 2017

AN ACT

1 Amending Title 18 (Crimes and Offenses) of the Pennsylvania
2 Consolidated Statutes, in offenses against public order and
3 decency, further providing for the offense of cruelty to
4 animals.

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

7 Section 1. Section 5511(a) of Title 18 of the Pennsylvania
8 Consolidated Statutes is amended by adding a paragraph to read:

9 § 5511. Cruelty to animals.

10 (a) Killing, maiming or poisoning domestic animals or zoo
11 animals, etc.--

12 * * *

13 (1.1) (i) A person commits a misdemeanor of the first
14 degree if he willfully and maliciously kills, maims,
15 disfigures, tortures or administers poison to or exposes
16 any poisonous substance with intent to administer such
17 poison or poisonous substance to a dog or cat, guide dog
18 for an individual who is blind, hearing dog for an

1 individual who is deaf or audibly impaired or service dog
2 for an individual who is physically limited that belongs
3 to or resides with a person protected by an order issued
4 under 23 Pa.C.S. Ch. 61 (relating to protection from
5 abuse) or 42 Pa.C.S. Ch. 62A (relating to protection of
6 victims of sexual violence or intimidation) and the
7 person committing the violation is the subject of the
8 order.

9 (ii) Any person convicted of violating this
10 paragraph shall be sentenced to pay a fine of not less
11 than \$2,000 and not more than \$15,000 or to imprisonment
12 for not more than two years, or both.

13 * * *

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