

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

**HOUSE BILL**  
**No. 1980** Session of  
1985

INTRODUCED BY STEWART, MURPHY, WOZNIAK, COY AND D. R. WRIGHT,  
DECEMBER 11, 1985

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND RURAL AFFAIRS,  
DECEMBER 11, 1985

AN ACT

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

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

17 Section 1. The table of contents of the act of December 7,  
18 1982 (P.L.784, No.225), known as the Dog Law, is amended to  
19 read:

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\* \* \*

Article XI. Liability [of the Commonwealth]

Section 1101. Liability of the State.

1     Section 1102. Liability of nonprofit kennel.

2                             \* \* \*

3     Section 2. The heading of Article XI of the act is amended  
4 to read:

5                             ARTICLE XI

6                             LIABILITY [OF THE COMMONWEALTH]

7     \* \* \*

8     Section 3. The act is amended by adding a section to read:

9     Section 1102. Liability of nonprofit kennel.

10     A nonprofit kennel shall not be liable to anyone for any  
11 action taken by it or any of its employees if such action was  
12 taken in accordance with this act, except in the case of  
13 destruction of a dog, and in such case the liability shall be  
14 limited to the cost or the fair market value of the dog.

15     Section 4. This act shall take effect immediately.