
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 522 Session of
2013

INTRODUCED BY ALLOWAY, FARNESE, STACK, TEPLITZ, ERICKSON,
FONTANA, LEACH, SMITH, WHITE, WOZNIAK, WASHINGTON, COSTA,
DINNIMAN, SCHWANK AND SOLOBAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2013

REFERRED TO JUDICIARY, FEBRUARY 26, 2013

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(c)(2) of Title 18 of the
8 Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes is amended and the section is
9 amended by adding a subsection to read:

10 § 5511. Cruelty to animals.

11 * * *

12 (c) Cruelty to animals.--

13 * * *

14 (2) (i) Except as provided in subparagraph (ii), a
15 person convicted of violating paragraph (1) commits a
16 summary offense.

17 (ii) A person convicted for a second or subsequent
18 time of violating paragraph (1) commits a misdemeanor of

1 the third degree if all of the following occurred:

2 (A) The action or omission for which the person
3 was convicted for a subsequent time was performed on
4 a dog or cat.

5 (B) The dog or cat was seriously injured,
6 suffered severe physical distress or was placed at
7 imminent risk of serious physical harm as the result
8 of the person's action or omission.

9 (iii) A person convicted of violating paragraph (1)
10 in combination with a violation of subsection (c.1)
11 commits a misdemeanor of the third degree.

12 * * *

13 (c.1) Tethering of dogs.--

14 (1) A person commits a summary offense if the person
15 tethers a dog outside and unattended to any stationary object
16 by use of a restraint and fails to satisfy the following:

17 (i) The tether is placed or attached so that the dog
18 cannot become entangled with other objects and allows the
19 dog to roam the full range of the tether. The tether must
20 be of a type commonly used for the size of dog involved,
21 may not be thicker than one-eighth of an inch and must be
22 attached to the stationary object by means of a swivel.

23 (ii) The tether is attached to the dog by means of a
24 well-fitted collar or body harness that will not cause
25 trauma or injury to the dog. No choke, pinch, prong or
26 other chain collar may be used.

27 (iii) The tether is at least 12 feet long and allows
28 the dog convenient and unfettered access to shelter and
29 food and water containers. The tether may not become
30 wrapped around any appendage so that it restricts the

1 dog's movement.

2 (iv) While tethered, the dog is provided with
3 protection from the direct rays of the sun and at least
4 one area of shade other than the shelter is provided.

5 (v) The dog is not tethered outside during periods
6 of temperature below 32 degrees Fahrenheit or above 90
7 degrees Fahrenheit or when a weather advisory or warning
8 has been issued.

9 (2) A person who commits an offense under this
10 subsection may, upon conviction, and in addition to any other
11 penalty authorized by law, be subject to forfeiture of the
12 dog.

13 * * *

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