
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 940 Session of
2021

INTRODUCED BY RIGBY, E. NELSON, KNOWLES, RYAN, KULIK, JAMES,
SMITH, GUENST, POLINCHOCK, SCHMITT, THOMAS, SANKEY, SILVIS,
FARRY, KAIL, KAUFFMAN, STRUZZI, SCHLEGEL CULVER, DAVANZO,
DRISCOLL, JOZWIAK, HERSHEY, CAUSER, GREGORY, ECKER,
OBERLANDER, MOUL, ZIMMERMAN, WHEELAND, MERCURI AND MASSER,
MARCH 17, 2021

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY, MARCH 17, 2021

AN ACT

1 Amending Title 18 (Crimes and Offenses) of the Pennsylvania
2 Consolidated Statutes, in cruelty to animals, further
3 providing for police animals.

4 This act may be referred to as Titan's Law.

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

7 Section 1. Section 5548 of Title 18 of the Pennsylvania
8 Consolidated Statutes is amended to read:

9 § 5548. Police animals.

10 (a) Illegal to taunt police animals.--It shall be unlawful
11 for a person to intentionally or knowingly taunt, torment,
12 tease, beat, kick or strike a police animal. A person who
13 violates the provisions of this subsection commits a felony of
14 the third degree.

15 (b) Illegal to torture or kill police animals.--It shall be
16 unlawful for a person to [intentionally]:

1 (1) Intentionally or knowingly torture, mutilate,
2 injure, disable, poison or kill a police animal. A person who
3 violates the provisions of this [subsection] paragraph
4 commits a felony of the second degree.

5 (2) Recklessly torture, mutilate, injure, disable,
6 poison or kill a police animal. A person who violates the
7 provisions of this paragraph commits a misdemeanor of the
8 first degree.

9 (b.1) Illegal to torture or kill police animals during
10 perpetration of felony.--It shall be unlawful for a person to
11 torture, mutilate, injure, disable, poison or kill a police
12 animal while engaged as a principal or an accomplice in the
13 perpetration of a felony. A person who violates the provisions
14 of this subsection commits a felony of the third degree.

15 (c) Restitution.--In a case in which a defendant is
16 convicted of a violation of subsection (a) [or (b)], (b) or
17 (b.1) the defendant shall be ordered to make restitution to the
18 agency or individual owning the animal for veterinary bills, for
19 replacement costs of the animal if it is disabled or killed and
20 for the salary of the animal's handler for the period of time
21 the handler's services are lost to the agency.

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