



# HOUSE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

## FISCAL NOTE

SENATE BILL NO. 1261

PRINTERS NO. 1783

PRIME SPONSOR: Smith

### COST / (SAVINGS)

FUND	FY 2013/14	FY 2014/15
General Fund	\$0	\$0

**SUMMARY:** Senate Bill 1261, Printer's Number 1783, amends the Dog Law to increase the grading for harm to a dog used in law enforcement.

**ANALYSIS:** This bill amends the Dog Law (Act 225 of 1982) to increase the grading for harm to a dog used in law enforcement. Under current law it is unlawful for any person to willfully or maliciously torture, mutilate, injure, disable, poison or kill a police animal, and the offense is graded as a felony of the third degree. This legislation would increase the grading to a felony of the second degree.

This legislation would take effect in 60 days upon enactment.

**FISCAL IMPACT:** Enactment of this legislation will have no impact on Commonwealth funds.

According to the Pennsylvania Commission on Sentencing, there were no convictions for the torture or killing of a police animal in 2011 or 2012, the specific offense impacted by this legislation. Therefore, based on this recent history, enactment of this legislation is not expected to have a significant impact on Commonwealth or local government funds.

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House Appropriations Committee (R)

**DATE:** June 24, 2014

*Estimates are calculated using the best information available. Actual costs and revenue impact incurred may vary from estimates.*