
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 165 Session of
2011

INTRODUCED BY J. EVANS, BUXTON, CALTAGIRONE, D. COSTA, FLECK,
GEIST, GILLESPIE, GOODMAN, KILLION, KORTZ, MANN, MILLARD,
MILNE, PAYNE, PYLE, RAPP, READSHAW, REICHLEY, SCAVELLO,
SCHRODER, WATSON AND WHITE, JANUARY 24, 2011

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY, JANUARY 24, 2011

AN ACT

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

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

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

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

11 * * *

12 (2.2) (i) A person commits a misdemeanor of the second
13 degree if he is the owner or co-owner of a dog that
14 kills, maims or disfigures a guide dog of an individual
15 who is blind, a hearing dog of an individual who is deaf
16 or audibly impaired or a service dog of an individual who
17 is physically limited without provocation by the guide,

1 hearing or service dog or the individual.

2 (ii) A person commits an offense under this
3 paragraph only if the person knew or should have known
4 that the dog he owns or co-owns had a propensity to
5 attack human beings or domestic animals without
6 provocation.

7 (iii) Any person convicted of violating the
8 provisions of this paragraph shall be sentenced to pay a
9 fine of not more than \$5,000 and shall be ordered to make
10 reparations for veterinary costs in treating the guide,
11 hearing or service dog and, if necessary, the cost of
12 obtaining and training a replacement guide, hearing or
13 service dog.

14 * * *

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