

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 968 Session of  
2011

INTRODUCED BY DINNIMAN, APRIL 14, 2011

REFERRED TO JUDICIARY, APRIL 14, 2011

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(a) of Title 18 of the Pennsylvania  
8 Consolidated Statutes is amended by adding a paragraph to read:  
9 § 5511. Cruelty to animals.

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

12 \* \* \*

13 (1.1) (i) A person commits a misdemeanor of the first  
14 degree if he willfully and maliciously kills, maims,  
15 disfigures, tortures or administers poison to or exposes  
16 any poisonous substance with intent to administer such  
17 poison or poisonous substance to any dog or cat, guide  
18 dog for an individual who is blind, hearing dog for an  
19 individual who is deaf or audibly impaired or service dog

1       for an individual who is physically limited, that is in  
2       the care, control or supervision of a person or persons  
3       who directly benefit from a protection from abuse order  
4       issued under 23 Pa.C.S. Ch. 61 (relating to protection  
5       from abuse) and where the person committing the harm  
6       against the dog, cat, guide dog, hearing dog or service  
7       dog is subject to the protection from abuse order.

8               (ii) Any person convicted of violating this  
9       paragraph shall be sentenced to pay a fine of not less  
10       than \$2,000 and not more than \$15,000 or to imprisonment  
11       for not more than two years, or both.

12       \* \* \*

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