
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 2149 Session of
2015

INTRODUCED BY HARHAI, W. KELLER, LONGIETTI, DAVIS, READSHAW,
DRISCOLL, BURNS, MILLARD, ENGLISH, HARKINS, DUNBAR, MAHONEY,
YOUNGBLOOD, ELLIS, O'BRIEN, WATSON, THOMAS, SAINATO AND
BOBACK, JUNE 9, 2016

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY, JUNE 9, 2016

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)(1) and (2.1)(ii) of Title 18 of
7 the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes are amended to read:

8 § 5511. Cruelty to animals.

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

11 (1) A person commits a misdemeanor of the second degree
12 if he willfully and maliciously:

13 (i) Kills, maims or disfigures any domestic animal
14 of another person or any domestic fowl of another person.

15 (ii) Administers poison to or exposes any poisonous
16 substance with the intent to administer such poison to
17 any domestic animal of another person or domestic fowl of

1 another person.

2 (iii) Harasses, annoys, injures, attempts to injure,
3 molests or interferes with a dog guide for an individual
4 who is blind, a hearing dog for an individual who is deaf
5 or audibly impaired or a service dog for an individual
6 who is physically limited.

7 Any person convicted of violating the provisions of this
8 paragraph shall be sentenced to pay a fine of not less than
9 ~~[\$500]~~ \$1,000.

10 * * *

11 (2.1) * * *

12 (ii) Any person convicted of violating the
13 provisions of this paragraph shall be sentenced to pay a
14 fine of not less than ~~[\$1,000]~~ \$2,000 or to imprisonment
15 for not more than two years, or both. The court may also
16 order a presentence mental evaluation. A subsequent
17 conviction under this paragraph shall be a felony of the
18 third degree. This paragraph shall apply to dogs and cats
19 only.

20 * * *

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