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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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SENATE BILL

No. 702 Session of  
2021

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INTRODUCED BY BROWNE, ROBINSON, VOGEL, FONTANA, SCAVELLO,  
STREET, COLLETT, SANTARSIERO, COMMITTA, COSTA, TARTAGLIONE,  
MUTH, L. WILLIAMS, KANE, BOSCOLA, YUDICHAK AND HAYWOOD,  
MAY 21, 2021

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REFERRED TO JUDICIARY, MAY 21, 2021

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AN ACT

1 Amending Title 18 (Crimes and Offenses) of the Pennsylvania  
2 Consolidated Statutes, in cruelty to animals, further  
3 providing for definitions and providing for the offense of  
4 the use of live pigeons for targets at trap shoot or block  
5 shoot.

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

8 Section 1. Section 5531 of Title 18 of the Pennsylvania  
9 Consolidated Statutes is amended by adding a definition to read:

10 § 5531. Definitions.

11 The following words and phrases when used in this subchapter  
12 shall have the meanings given to them in this section unless the  
13 context clearly indicates otherwise:

14 \* \* \*

15 "Trap shoot" or "block shoot." A contest event during which  
16 participants shoot or attempt to shoot targets for either  
17 amusement or as a test of skill in marksmanship that are  
18 launched or otherwise immediately presented to the shooter

1 either manually or with electronic or mechanical assistance from  
2 a fixed location or locations within a predefined shooting  
3 field.

4 \* \* \*

5 Section 2. Title 18 is amended by adding a section to read:

6 § 5545.1. Use of live pigeons for targets at trap shoot or  
7 block shoot.

8 (a) Offense defined.--A person commits a summary offense if  
9 the person willfully organizes, operates or conducts a trap  
10 shoot or block shoot in which live pigeons are used as targets.

11 (b) Applicability.--Nothing under this section shall be  
12 construed to apply to activity which is authorized or permitted  
13 under 34 Pa.C.S. (relating to game) or a special permit under 58  
14 Pa. Code Ch. 147 (relating to special permits) or to the  
15 training of dogs for activity which is authorized or permitted  
16 under 34 Pa.C.S.

17 Section 3. This act shall take effect in 60 days.