

2C:29-3.1

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY CHECKLIST

NJSA: 2C:29-3.1

(Police dogs and horses--unlawful to injure animal or interfere with performance of duty)

LAWS OF: 1983

CHAPTER: 261

Bill No: A1605

Sponsor(s): D. Gallo

Date Introduced: June 14, 1982

Committee: Assembly: Judiciary, Law, Public Safety and Defense

Senate: Law, Public Safety and Defense

Amended during passage: YES Amendments during passage denoted by asterisks

Date of Passage: Assembly: October 25, 1982

Senate: June 27, 1983

Date of Approval: July 7, 1983

Following statements are attached if available:

Sponsor statement: YES (Below)

Committee statement: Assembly YES

Senate YES

Fiscal Note: NO

Veto Message: NO

Message on Signing: ~~NO~~ Yes

Following were printed:

Reports: NO

Hearings: NO

Sponsor's Statement:

This bill provides that any person who injures or harms a police animal or who interferes with the performance of a police animal, commits a crime of the fourth degree. The bill is intended to offer protection to police protection to police officers who use police animals in the performance of law enforcement duties.

DO NOT REMOVE THIS FROM THE ORIGINAL FILE

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ASSEMBLY, No. 1605

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

INTRODUCED JUNE 14, 1982

By Assemblyman D. GALLO

AN ACT concerning injury to animals used by law enforcement agencies and supplementing Title 2C of the New Jersey Statutes.

1 BE IT ENACTED *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*  
2 *of New Jersey:*

1 1. Any person who purposely kills, maims or otherwise inflicts  
2 harm upon a dog, horse or other animal owned or used by a law  
3 enforcement agency or who interferes with any law enforcement  
4 officer using an animal in the performance of his official duties  
5 commits a \***[crime of the fourth degree]**\* *\*disorderly persons*  
6 *offense, subject to a sentence of six months imprisonment, some or*  
7 *all of which may be community service, restitution and a \$1,000.00*  
8 *fine\*.*

1 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

**EXPLANATION**—Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter printed in italics *thus* is new matter.

Matter enclosed in asterisks or stars has been adopted as follows:

\*—Assembly committee amendment adopted October 18, 1982.

ASSEMBLY, No. 1605

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

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2 harm upon a dog, horse or other animal owned or used by a law  
3 enforcement agency or who interferes with any law enforcement  
4 officer using an animal in the performance of his official duties  
5 commits a crime of the fourth degree.

1 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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STATEMENT

This bill provides that any person who injures or harms a police animal or who interferes with the performance of a police animal, commits a crime of the fourth degree. The bill is intended to offer protection to police officers who use police animals in the performance of law enforcement duties.

ASSEMBLY JUDICIARY, LAW, PUBLIC SAFETY AND  
DEFENSE COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

**ASSEMBLY, No. 1605**

with Assembly committee amendments

**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

DATED: OCTOBER 7, 1982

This bill, as amended, provides that any person who injures a police animal or who interferes with the performance of a police officer using an animal in the performance of his duties, commits a disorderly persons offense subject to six months imprisonment, some or all of which may be community service, restitution and a \$1,000.00 fine.

SENATE LAW, PUBLIC SAFETY AND DEFENSE  
COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO  
**ASSEMBLY, No. 1605**

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**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

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DATED: JUNE 20, 1983

Assembly Bill No. 1605 OCR would provide that a person who injures or kills an animal owned or used by a law enforcement agency or interferes with a police officer using an animal in the performance of his official duties commits a disorderly persons offense.

Upon conviction, the person would be subject to a fine of \$1,000.00, restitution, and imprisonment for six months, all or part of which could be community service. This penalty differs from the penalty usually imposed for a disorderly persons offense, which is established by N. J. S. 2C:43-3 and N. J. S. 2C:43-8, as a fine, restitution, or both, not to exceed \$1,000.00, and/or imprisonment for up to six months.

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661

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

RELEASE: IMMEDIATE

CONTACT: PAUL WOLCOTT

FRIDAY, JULY 8, 1983

Governor Thomas H. Kean has signed the following bills:

A-1605, sponsored by Assemblyman Dean A. Gallo, R-Morris, which makes it a crime to injure or harm a police animal or to interfere with a police animal's performance of duty. The bill makes such an action a disorderly persons offense.

A-696, sponsored by Assemblyman David C. Schwartz, D-Middlesex, which authorizes the Director of the Division of Aeronautics to adopt and enforce zoning regulations which specify land use in the area around airports to prevent the creation of airport hazards. The bill defines "airport hazard" as any use of land or water which creates a dangerous situation for persons or property in or about an airport or aircraft during landing or take-off at an airport, or any structure or tree which obstructs the air space required for the flight of aircraft in landing or taking off.

S-1183, sponsored by State Senator Walter Rand, D-Camden, which permits bicycle riders to use a roadway even when there is adjacent bike path. The bill notes that some bike paths are poorly constructed, and the cyclists traveling at high speeds often cannot use bike paths because of the presence of children and pedestrians.

S-1168, sponsored by State Senator John A. Lynch, D-Middlesex, which amends the law providing for payment by the State for local services in lieu of taxes. Currently the law sets a maximum of 25 percent of the local tax levy on the amount the city of New Brunswick and Maurice River, Woodbine and Chesterfield Townships.

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