

1                   A bill to be entitled  
 2           An act relating to police dogs, fire dogs, SAR dogs, and  
 3           police horses; amending s. 843.19, F.S.; prohibiting  
 4           intentionally and knowingly causing great bodily harm to  
 5           or using a deadly weapon upon a police dog, fire dog, SAR  
 6           dog, or police horse; prohibiting actually and  
 7           intentionally maliciously touching, striking, or causing  
 8           bodily harm to a police dog, fire dog, SAR dog, or police  
 9           horse; prohibiting maliciously harassing, teasing,  
 10          interfering with, or attempting to interfere with a police  
 11          dog, fire dog, SAR dog, or police horse while the animal  
 12          is in the performance of its duties; providing penalties;  
 13          providing for restitution from violators; providing  
 14          application; providing an effective date.

15  
 16   Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

17  
 18           Section 1. Subsection (2) of section 843.19, Florida  
 19           Statutes, is amended, and subsections (3), (4), and (5) are  
 20           added to said section, to read:

21           843.19 Offenses against ~~Injuring or killing~~ police dogs  
 22           ~~dog,~~ fire dogs ~~dog,~~ SAR dogs ~~dog,~~ or police horses ~~horse~~  
 23           ~~prohibited; penalty.--~~

24           (2) Any person who intentionally and knowingly causes ~~and~~  
 25           ~~willfully and without lawful cause or justification~~ inflicts  
 26           great bodily harm, permanent disability, or death to, or uses a  
 27           deadly weapon upon, a police dog, fire dog, SAR dog, or police

HB 0583

2005

28 horse commits a felony of the third degree, punishable as  
29 provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084.

30 (3) Any person who actually and intentionally maliciously  
31 touches, strikes, or causes bodily harm to a police dog, fire  
32 dog, SAR dog, or police horse commits a misdemeanor of the first  
33 degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083.

34 (4) Any person who intentionally or knowingly maliciously  
35 harasses, teases, interferes with, or attempts to interfere with  
36 a police dog, fire dog, SAR dog, or police horse while the  
37 animal is in the performance of its duties commits a misdemeanor  
38 of the second degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s.  
39 775.083.

40 (5) A person convicted of an offense under this section  
41 shall make restitution for injuries caused to the police dog,  
42 fire dog, SAR dog, or police horse and shall pay the replacement  
43 cost of the animal if, as a result of the offense, the animal  
44 can no longer perform its duties.

45 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2005, and  
46 shall apply to offenses occurring on or after that date.