

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2007**

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SENATE DRS35012-LH-4 (08/28)

Short Title: Kill Police Animal.

(Public)

Sponsors: Senator Swindell.

Referred to:

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT TO MAKE IT A CLASS H FELONY TO WILLFULLY KILL OR ATTEMPT TO KILL A LAW ENFORCEMENT OR ASSISTANCE ANIMAL AND TO MAKE IT AN AGGRAVATING CIRCUMSTANCE FOR OTHER CRIMINAL OFFENSES THAT A LAW ENFORCEMENT OR ASSISTANCE ANIMAL WAS SERIOUSLY HARMED OR KILLED WHILE THE ANIMAL WAS ENGAGED IN PERFORMING OFFICIAL DUTIES.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

SECTION 1. G.S. 14-163.1 is amended by adding a new subsection to read as follows:

"(a1) Any person who knows or has reason to know that an animal is a law enforcement agency animal or an assistance animal and who willfully kills or attempts to kill the animal is guilty of a Class H felony."

SECTION 2. G.S. 15A-1340.16(d) is amended by adding a new subdivision to read:

"(6a) The offense was committed against or proximately caused serious harm as defined in G.S. 14-163.1 or death to a law enforcement agency animal or assistance animal as defined in G.S. 14-163.1, while engaged in the performance of the animal's official duties."

SECTION 3. This act becomes effective December 1, 2007, and applies to offenses committed on or after that date.