104TH CONGRESS 2D SESSION **H. R. 2966**

To authorize law enforcement agencies to make arrangements for the compensation of officers in their canine units.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 16, 1996

Mr. HERGER introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Economic and Educational Opportunities

A BILL

To authorize law enforcement agencies to make arrangements for the compensation of officers in their canine units.

1 Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-

2 tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

3 SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

4 This Act may be cited as the "Canine Unit Preserva-5 tion Act of 1996".

6 SEC. 2. OVERTIME FOR OFFICERS IN CANINE UNITS.

7 (a) AGREEMENT.—The head of each law enforcement
8 agency and fire department which has a canine unit may
9 enter into an agreement with the officers assigned to such
10 unit for the payment to such officers of overtime com-

pensation in accordance with section 7 of the Fair Labor
 Standards Act of 1938 for the hours spent by such officers
 in the care and training of the dogs in such unit. Such
 an agreement shall be entered into before the expiration
 of 6 months after the date of the enactment of this Act
 and shall be submitted to the Secretary of Labor for ap proval.

8 (b) EXEMPTION.—Beginning on the date of the en-9 actment of this Act, an officer assigned to a canine unit 10 in a law enforcement agency or fire department shall not be paid such overtime compensation for hours spent by 11 such officer in the care and training of the officer's dog 12 in such unit until such date as an agreement authorized 13 by subsection (a) has been entered into for such officer 14 15 and approved under subsection (d) or 6 months from the date of the enactment of this Act has expired, whichever 16 17 occurs first.

(c) GUIDELINES.—Before the expiration of 90 days
from the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary
of Labor shall issue guidelines for the preparation of
agreements authorized by subsection (a).

(d) APPROVAL.—The Secretary of Labor shall approve any agreement submitted to the Secretary under
subsection (a) which is prepared in accordance with the
guidelines issued under subsection (c). If such an agree-

ment is approved by the Secretary payment of overtime
 compensation for an officer covered by such agreement
 shall be in accordance with such agreement.

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