

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 4755

To amend title 18, United States Code, to prohibit harming animals used in law enforcement, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 25, 2025

Mr. BEAN of Florida (for himself and Mr. MILLS) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To amend title 18, United States Code, to prohibit harming animals used in law enforcement, and for other purposes.

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 “LEO K9 Protection
5 Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. HARMING ANIMALS USED IN LAW ENFORCEMENT.**

2 Section 1368 of title 18, United States Code, is
3 amended by striking subsection (b) and inserting the fol-
4 lowing:

5 “(b) Whoever, in the commission of any act described
6 in subsection (a), uses a deadly or dangerous weapon (in-
7 cluding a weapon intended to cause death or danger but
8 that fails to do so by reason of a defective component),
9 shall be fined under this title or imprisoned not more than
10 15 years, or both.

11 “(c) In this section, the term ‘police animal’ means
12 a dog or horse in the service of a Federal agency (whether
13 in the executive, legislative, or judicial branch), or in the
14 service of a State, county, or local agency that is assisting
15 a Federal agency—

16 “(1) for the principal purpose of aiding in the
17 detection of criminal activity, enforcement of laws,
18 or the apprehension of criminal offenders, the detec-
19 tion of flammable materials, the investigation of
20 fires, the detection of missing persons (including
21 persons who are lost, who are trapped under debris
22 as the result of a natural, manmade, or technological
23 disaster, or who are drowning victims); or

24 “(2) used in any official military capacity by
25 the Department of Defense.

1 “(d) This section does not apply to a person who acts
2 in good faith to provide emergency veterinary care to an
3 injured police animal.”.

4 **SEC. 3. MEDICAL TRANSPORTATION FOR POLICE DOGS IN-**
5 **JURED IN OFFICIAL DUTY.**

6 Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment
7 of this Act, the Secretary of Transportation, acting
8 through the Office of Emergency Medical Services Initia-
9 tives at the National Highway Transportation Safety Ad-
10 ministration, shall publish guidance for emergency medical
11 services personnel in order to care for police dogs injured
12 while such police dog is engaged in official duties of the
13 dog. The Secretary shall develop such guidance using ex-
14 isting Federal guidelines of the Department of Homeland
15 Security, the Department of Defense, the Canine Tactical
16 Combat Casualty Care Guidelines, and other resources al-
17 ready available at Federal agencies. The Secretary may
18 consult accredited veterinarians, as necessary, in devel-
19 oping the guidance under this section.

20 **SEC. 4. REGULATIONS FOR EMERGENCY MEDICAL TRANS-**
21 **PORTATION SERVICES.**

22 Not later than 240 days after the date of enactment
23 of this Act, the Secretary of Transportation shall promul-
24 gate regulations to ensure that—

1 (1) a police dog injured while such police dog
2 is engaged in official duties of the dog may be trans-
3 ported to a veterinary clinic or similar facility if
4 there is no individual requiring medical attention or
5 transport at that time; and

6 (2) a paramedic or an emergency medical tech-
7 nician may provide emergency medical care to a po-
8 lice dog while such police dog is engaged in official
9 duties of the dog while at the scene of the emer-
10 gency or while the police dog is being transported to
11 a veterinary clinic or similar facility.

12 **SEC. 5. DEFINITION.**

13 In this Act, the term “police dog” means a police ani-
14 mal (as such term is defined in section 1368 of title 18,
15 United States Code) that is a dog, and includes a similar
16 dog working in the service of a State, county, or local
17 agency.

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