

Sixty-first
Legislative Assembly
of North Dakota

SENATE BILL NO.

Introduced by

Senator Nelson

1 A BILL for an Act to amend and reenact section 12.1-17-09 of the North Dakota Century Code,
2 relating to the killing or injury of a law enforcement support animal; and to provide a penalty.

3 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:**

4 **SECTION 1. AMENDMENT.** Section 12.1-17-09 of the North Dakota Century Code is
5 amended and reenacted as follows:

6 **12.1-17-09. Killing or injury of ~~certified~~, law enforcement support ~~dog~~ animal -**

7 **Definition - Penalty.**

8 1. a. A person is guilty of a class A B misdemeanor ~~and is subject to a civil penalty~~
9 ~~of up to ten thousand dollars~~ if that person willfully:

10 (1) Harasses, taunts, provokes, or torments a law enforcement support
11 animal;

12 (2) Interferes with a law enforcement support animal while the animal is
13 working; or

14 (3) Interferes with an individual handling the animal.

15 b. A person is guilty of a class B felony if that person willfully and unjustifiably
16 harms a law enforcement support animal.

17 c. A person is guilty of a class B felony if that person willfully and unjustifiably
18 ~~kills, shoots, tortures, torments, beats, kicks, strikes, mutilates, disables, or~~
19 ~~otherwise injures a certified;~~

20 (1) Causes debilitating bodily injury to a law enforcement support ~~dog~~
21 animal; or

22 (2) Causes the death of a law enforcement support animal.

23 2. For purposes of this section, "~~certified~~, a law enforcement support ~~dog~~ animal"
24 means ~~any a dog used by a~~ that is certified for use in law enforcement officer in

- 1 ~~the performance of the officer's functions and duties, corrections, arson~~
2 ~~investigation, or search and rescue, and a horse that is used in law enforcement,~~
3 ~~corrections, or search and rescue,~~ regardless of whether the ~~dog~~ animal is on or
4 off duty.
- 5 3. This section does not apply to a law enforcement officer or a veterinarian who
6 terminates the life of a ~~certified~~, law enforcement support ~~dog~~ animal to relieve the
7 ~~dog~~ animal of undue suffering and pain.