

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 - Definition**  
7 **- 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 the 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;

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 that is certified for use in, or a horse used by a in, law

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