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H.212

Introduced by Representatives Jickling of Brookfield, Hooper of Brookfield,
Parent of St. Albans Town, and Sibia of Dover

Referred to Committee on

Date:

Subject: Crimes and criminal procedure; humane and proper treatment of
animals; aggravated cruelty; penalties

Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to increase the
penalties for the intentional killing of a dog that is performing its official duties
under the supervision of a law enforcement officer.

An act relating to increasing the penalties for killing a law enforcement dog

It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

Sec. 1. 13 V.S.A. § 353 is amended to read:

§ 353. DEGREE OF OFFENSE; SENTENCING UPON CONVICTION

(a) Penalties.

* * *

(2) ~~Aggravated~~ (A) Except as provided in subdivision (B) of this
subdivision (2), aggravated cruelty under section 352a of this title shall be
punishable by a sentence of imprisonment of not more than three years or a
fine of not more than \$5,000.00, or both. Second and subsequent offenses

1 shall be punishable by a sentence of imprisonment of not more than five years
2 or a fine of not more than \$7,500.00, or both.

3 (B) The intentional killing of a dog under subdivision 352a(3) of this
4 title shall be punishable by a sentence of imprisonment of not more than five
5 years or a fine of not more than \$7,500.00, or both. Second or subsequent
6 offenses shall be punishable by a sentence of imprisonment of not more than
7 seven years or a fine of not more than \$10,000.00, or both.

8 * * *

9 Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE

10 This act shall take effect on July 1, 2017.