

By Representative Kottkamp

1                                   A bill to be entitled  
2           An act relating to guide dogs and service  
3           animals; prohibiting persons from interfering  
4           with, injuring, or killing guide dogs or  
5           service animals; providing penalties; providing  
6           an effective date.

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8 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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10           Section 1. (1) Any person who, with reckless  
11 disregard, interferes or permits a dog that he owns or is in  
12 the immediate control of, to interfere with the use of a guide  
13 dog or service animal by obstructing, intimidating, or  
14 otherwise jeopardizing the safety of the animal or its user is  
15 guilty of a misdemeanor of the second degree for the first  
16 offense and a misdemeanor of the first degree for each  
17 subsequent offense, punishable as provided in section 775.082  
18 or section 775.083, Florida Statutes.

19           (2) Any person who, with reckless disregard, injures  
20 or kills, or permits a dog that he owns or is in the immediate  
21 control of to injure or kill, a guide dog or service animal is  
22 guilty of a misdemeanor of the first degree, punishable as  
23 provided in section 775.082 or section 775.083, Florida  
24 Statutes.

25           (3) Any person who intentionally injures or kills, or  
26 permits a dog that he owns or is in the immediate control of  
27 to injure or kill, a guide dog or service animal is guilty of  
28 a felony of the third degree, punishable as provided in  
29 section 775.082 or section 775.083, Florida Statutes.

30           (4)(a) A person who is convicted of a violation of  
31 this section must also make full restitution for all damages

1 that arise out of or are related to the offense, including  
2 incidental and consequential damages incurred by the guide dog  
3 or service animal's user.

4 (b) Restitution includes the value of the animal;  
5 replacement and training or retraining expenses for the animal  
6 and the user; veterinary and other medical and boarding  
7 expenses for the animal; medical expenses for the user; and  
8 lost wages or income incurred by the user during any period  
9 that the user is without the services of such an animal.

10 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2002.

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12 SENATE SUMMARY

13 Prohibits the interference with, injury to, or killing of  
14 a guide dog or service animal. Provides penalties.  
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