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2 An act relating to police dogs, fire dogs, SAR  
3 dogs, and police horses; amending s. 843.19,  
4 F.S.; prohibiting intentionally and knowingly,  
5 without justification, causing great bodily  
6 harm to or using a deadly weapon upon a police  
7 dog, fire dog, SAR dog, or police horse;  
8 prohibiting actually and intentionally  
9 maliciously touching, striking, or causing  
10 bodily harm to a police dog, fire dog, SAR dog,  
11 or police horse; prohibiting maliciously  
12 harassing, teasing, interfering with, or  
13 attempting to interfere with a police dog, fire  
14 dog, SAR dog, or police horse while the animal  
15 is in the performance of its duties; providing  
16 penalties; providing for restitution from  
17 violators; providing application; providing an  
18 effective date.

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

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22 Section 1. Section 843.19, Florida Statutes, is  
23 amended to read:

24 843.19 Offenses against ~~Injuring or killing~~ police  
25 dogs ~~dog~~, fire dogs ~~dog~~, SAR dogs ~~dog~~, or police horses ~~horse~~  
26 ~~prohibited; penalty.--~~

27 (1) As used in this section, the term:

28 (a) "Police dog" means any dog, and "police horse"  
29 means any horse, that is owned, or the service of which is  
30 employed, by a law enforcement agency for the principal  
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1 purpose of aiding in the detection of criminal activity,  
2 enforcement of laws, or apprehension of offenders.

3 (b) "Fire dog" means any dog that is owned, or the  
4 service of which is employed, by a fire department, a special  
5 fire district, or the State Fire Marshal for the principal  
6 purpose of aiding in the detection of flammable materials or  
7 the investigation of fires.

8 (c) "SAR dog" means any search and rescue dog that is  
9 owned, or the service of which is utilized, by a fire  
10 department, a law enforcement agency, a special fire district,  
11 or the State Fire Marshal for the principal purpose of aiding  
12 in the detection of missing persons, including, but not  
13 limited to, persons who are lost, who are trapped under debris  
14 as the result of a natural, manmade, or technological  
15 disaster, or who are drowning victims.

16 (2) Any person who intentionally and knowingly, ~~and~~  
17 ~~willfully and~~ without lawful cause or justification, causes  
18 inflicts great bodily harm, permanent disability, or death to,  
19 or uses a deadly weapon upon, a police dog, fire dog, SAR dog,  
20 or police horse commits a felony of the third degree,  
21 punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s.  
22 775.084.

23 (3) Any person who actually and intentionally  
24 maliciously touches, strikes, or causes bodily harm to a  
25 police dog, fire dog, SAR dog, or police horse commits a  
26 misdemeanor of the first degree, punishable as provided in s.  
27 775.082 or s. 775.083.

28 (4) Any person who intentionally or knowingly  
29 maliciously harasses, teases, interferes with, or attempts to  
30 interfere with a police dog, fire dog, SAR dog, or police  
31 horse while the animal is in the performance of its duties

1 commits a misdemeanor of the second degree, punishable as  
2 provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083.

3 (5) A person convicted of an offense under this  
4 section shall make restitution for injuries caused to the  
5 police dog, fire dog, SAR dog, or police horse and shall pay  
6 the replacement cost of the animal if, as a result of the  
7 offense, the animal can no longer perform its duties.

8 Section 2. This act shall take effect October 1, 2005,  
9 and shall apply to offenses occurring on or after that date.

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