**A** **BILL**

TO AMEND SECTION 47-3-630 OF THE 1976 CODE, RELATING TO PENALTIES FOR TEASING, MALTREATING, AND INJURING POLICE DOGS AND HORSES, TO PROVIDE THAT A PERSON WHO TORTURES, MUTILATES, INJURES, DISABLES, POISONS, OR KILLS A POLICE DOG OR HORSE MAY BE FINED UP TO TEN THOUSAND DOLLARS, MAY BE IMPRISONED FOR UP TO TEN YEARS, MUST PAY RESTITUTION TO COVER THE COST OF RESTORING OR REPLACING THE DOG OR HORSE INJURED OR KILLED, AND MAY BE REQUIRED TO COMPLETE UP TO FIVE HUNDRED HOURS OF COMMUNITY SERVICE FOR AN ANIMAL-RELATED ORGANIZATION OR FOUNDATION.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of South Carolina:

SECTION 1. This act may be referred to and cited as “Hyco’s Law.”

SECTION 2. Section 47-3-630 of the 1976 Code is amended to read:

“Section 47-3-630. (A) A person who violates ~~any of the provisions of this article, except for Section 47‑3‑620,~~ Section 47‑3‑610 is guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction, must be fined not less than five hundred dollars nor more than one thousand dollars or imprisoned not less than thirty days nor more than six months, or both.

(B) A person who violates the provisions of Section 47‑3‑620 is guilty of a felony and, upon conviction~~,~~:

(1) must be fined not less than two thousand dollars nor more than ~~five thousand~~ ten thousand dollars ~~and~~ or imprisoned not less than one year nor more than ~~five~~ ten years, or both;

(2) must pay restitution to the appropriate law enforcement agency to cover the full costs of restoring or replacing the dog or horse that was tortured, mutilated, injured, disabled, poisoned, or killed; and

(3) may be required to complete up to five hundred hours of community service for an animal‑related organization or foundation.”

SECTION 3. This act takes effect upon approval by the Governor.

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