
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 1539 Session of
2015

INTRODUCED BY D. COSTA, READSHAW, FARINA, MILLARD, PASHINSKI,
McNEILL, THOMAS, MAHONEY, GILLEN, DeLUCA, FARRY AND JOZWIAK,
SEPTEMBER 11, 2015

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION, SEPTEMBER 11, 2015

AN ACT

1 Amending Title 75 (Vehicles) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated
2 Statutes, providing for heat alert systems in K-9 vehicles.

3 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
4 hereby enacts as follows:

5 Section 1. Title 75 of the Pennsylvania Consolidated
6 Statutes is amended by adding a section to read:

7 § 3701.2. Heat alert system in a K-9 law enforcement vehicle.

8 (a) Requirement.--A law enforcement agency must equip each
9 vehicle used in a K-9 law enforcement program with a heat alert
10 system that is activated when the temperature in the vehicle's
11 interior becomes dangerous to a police dog in the vehicle. The
12 system, when activated, must do all of the following:

13 (1) Activate an audible alarm.

14 (2) Automatically lower at least two windows in the
15 vehicle.

16 (3) Send an electronic message to the K-9 law
17 enforcement officer.

1 (b) Compliance.--

2 (1) A law enforcement agency that has a K-9 law
3 enforcement program in existence on the effective date of
4 this section must comply with this section by January 1,
5 2018.

6 (2) A law enforcement agency that implements a K-9 law
7 enforcement program after December 31, 2017, must comply with
8 this section not later than one year after the date the
9 program begins operation.

10 (c) Applicability.--This section shall not apply to an open-
11 air vehicle used in connection with a K-9 law enforcement
12 program.

13 (d) Definitions.--As used in this section, the term "law
14 enforcement agency" means a police department or organization of
15 the Commonwealth or political subdivision of the Commonwealth
16 whose members are empowered to effect an arrest with or without
17 warrant and who are authorized to carry a firearm in the
18 performance of those members' duties.

19 Section 2. This act shall take effect immediately.