

SB0077S01 compared with SB0077

{Omitted text} shows text that was in SB0077 but was omitted in SB0077S01

inserted text shows text that was not in SB0077 but was inserted into SB0077S01

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1 {~~Police Service~~} Public Safety Animal Amendments

2025 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor: Jen Plumb

3 LONG TITLE

4 General Description:

5 This bill amends provisions relating to {~~police service~~} public safety animals.

6 Highlighted Provisions:

7 This bill:

8 ▸ defines terms; {and}

9 ▸ expands and clarifies criminal provisions relating to police service canines to include other animals used by {~~a law enforcement agency~~} public safety organizations to assist {~~in law enforcement~~} with duties related to public safety; and

12 ▸ adds a coordination clause to merge the changes to Section 76-9-306 in this bill, if this bill and H.B. 21, Criminal Code Recodification and Cross References, both pass and become law, due to Section 76-9-306 being renumbered and split into two separate sections in H.B. 21.

16 Money Appropriated in this Bill:

17 None

18 This bill provides a coordination clause.

21 AMENDS:

SB0077

SB0077 compared with SB0077S01

76-9-306 , as last amended by Laws of Utah 2018, Chapter 264 , as last amended by Laws of Utah 2018, Chapter 264

23 **Utah Code Sections affected by Coordination Clause:**

24 76-9-306 , as last amended by Laws of Utah 2018, Chapter 264 , as last amended by Laws of Utah 2018, Chapter 264

25

26 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:*

27 Section 1. Section 76-9-306 is amended to read:

28 76-9-306. ~~{Police-service}~~ Public safety animals -- Causing injury, death, or interference --
29 Penalties.

23 (1) As used in this section:

24 [(a) "Handler" means a law enforcement officer who is specially trained, and uses a police service
25 canine during the course of the performance of his law enforcement duties.]

27 [(b) "Police service canine" means any dog used by a law enforcement agency, which is specially
28 trained for law enforcement work, or any animal contracted to assist a law enforcement agency in
29 the performance of law enforcement duties.]

30 (a) "Handler" means ~~{a law enforcement officer}~~ an individual who uses a ~~{police service}~~ public
31 safety animal to assist with ~~{law enforcement}~~ duties of a public safety organization.

32 (b) ~~{"Police-service"}~~ "Public safety animal" means an animal that a ~~{law enforcement agency}~~ public
33 safety organization:

33 (i) owns or uses under contract; and

34 (ii) uses, or allows another {law enforcement agency} public safety organization to use, to assist with
35 {law enforcement} duties of a public safety organization.

36 (c) "Public safety organization" means a government entity that provides a law enforcement,
37 firefighting, search and rescue, military, or other public safety service.

38 (2) It is a second degree felony for a person to intentionally or knowingly cause death to a ~~{police
39 service}{f} canine}~~ public safety animal.

38 (3) It is a third degree felony for a person to intentionally or knowingly:

39 (a) cause bodily injury to a ~~{police service}{f} canine}~~ public safety animal;

40 (b) engage in conduct likely to cause bodily injury or death to ~~{a police service}{f} canine}~~ public safety
41 animal; or

SB0077 compared with SB0077S01

- 42 (c) lay out, place, or administer any poison, trap, substance, or object which is likely to produce bodily
injury or death to a ~~[police service- {f} canine]~~ public safety animal.
- 44 (4) It is a class A misdemeanor for a person to intentionally or knowingly:
- 45 (a) taunt, torment, strike, or otherwise assault a ~~[police service- {f} canine]~~ public safety animal;
- 46 (b) throw any object or substance at, or in the path of, a ~~[police service- {f} canine]~~ public safety animal;
- 47 (c) interfere with or obstruct a ~~[police service- {f} canine]~~ public safety animal, or attempt to, or
interfere with the handler of [the canine] a ~~{police service- }~~ public safety animal in a manner that
inhibits, restricts, or deprives the handler of control of the [canine] ~~{police service- }~~ public safety
animal;
- 50 (d) release a ~~[police service- {f} canine]~~ public safety animal from its area of control, such as a vehicle,
kennel, or pen, or trespass in that area; or
- 52 (e) place any food, object, or substance into a ~~[police service- {f} canine's]~~ public safety animal's area of
control without the permission of the handler.
- 54 (5)
- . (a) A ~~[police service- {f} canine]~~ public safety animal is exempt from quarantine or other animal control
ordinances if [it] the public safety animal bites any ~~[person]~~ individual while under proper ~~[police
supervision~~ by a public safety organization or during routine veterinary care.[=]
- 71 (b) The ~~[law enforcement agency]~~ public safety organization and the [canine's] ~~{police service- }~~ public
safety animal's handler shall make the [canine] ~~{police service- }~~ public safety animal available for
examination at any reasonable time and shall notify the local health officer if the [canine] ~~{police
service- }~~ public safety animal exhibits any abnormal behavior.
- 60 (6) In addition to any other penalty, a person convicted of a violation of this section is liable for
restitution to the owning or employing ~~[law enforcement agency]~~ public safety organization or
individual owner of the ~~[police service- {f} canine]~~ public safety animal for the replacement,
training, and veterinary costs incurred as a result of the violation of this section.

80 Section 2. **Effective date.**

This bill takes effect on May 7, 2025.

82 Section 3. **Coordinating S.B. 77 with H.B. 21.**

If S.B. 77, Public Safety Animal Amendments, and H.B. 21, Criminal Code

Recodification and Cross References, both pass and become law, the Legislature intends that,
on May 7, 2025:

SB0077 compared with SB0077S01

(1) Section 76-13-209 (renumbered from Section 76-9-306) in H.B. 21 and Section
87 76-9-306 in S.B. 77 be amended to read:

"76-13-209.

Endangering, injuring, or killing a public safety animal.

Endangering, injuring, or killing a public safety animal.(1) (a) As used in this section:

Endangering, injuring, or killing a public safety animal.(1) (a) As used in this section:[]

(a) "Handler" means a law enforcement officer who is specially trained, and uses a police service canine during the course of the performance of his law enforcement duties.

Endangering, injuring, or killing a public safety animal.(1) (a) As used in this section:[]

Endangering, injuring, or killing a public safety animal.(1) (a) As used in this section:[][]

(b) "Police service canine" means any dog used by a law enforcement agency, which is specially trained for law enforcement work, or any animal contracted to assist a law enforcement agency in the performance of law enforcement duties.

Endangering, injuring, or killing a public safety animal.(1) (a) As used in this section:[][]

(i) "Handler" means an individual who uses a public safety animal to assist with duties of a public safety organization.

(ii) "Public safety animal" means an animal that a public safety organization:

(A) owns or uses under contract; and

(B) uses, or allows another public safety organization to use, to assist with duties of a public safety organization.

(iii) "Public safety organization" means a government entity that provides a law enforcement, firefighting, search and rescue, military, or other public safety service.

(b) Terms defined in Sections 76-1-101.5, 76-13-101, and 76-13-201 apply to this section.

Endangering, injuring, or killing a public safety animal.(1) (a) As used in this section:[][](2)

[It is a second-degree felony for a person to intentionally or knowingly cause]

An actor

commits endangering, injuring, or killing a public safety animal if the actor intentionally or knowingly:

(a) causes the

SB0077 compared with SB0077S01

Endangering, injuring, or killing a public safety animal.(1) (a) As used in this section:[][(2) [It is a second-degree felony for a person to intentionally or knowingly cause] death [tø] of a [pølice service canine.]

public safety animal;

(b) causes bodily injury to a public safety animal;

(c) engages in conduct likely to cause bodily injury or death to a public safety animal; or

(d) lays out, places, or administers any poison, trap, substance, or object that is likely to produce bodily injury or death to a public safety animal.

(3) (a) A violation of Subsection (2)(a) is a second degree felony.

(b) A violation of Subsection (2)(b), (c), or (d) is a third degree felony.

Endangering, injuring, or killing a public safety animal.(1) (a) As used in this section:[][(2) [It is a second-degree felony for a person to intentionally or knowingly cause] death [tø] of a [pølice service canine.]](3) It is a third-degree felony for a person to intentionally or knowingly:]

Endangering, injuring, or killing a public safety animal.(1) (a) As used in this section:[][(2) [It is a second-degree felony for a person to intentionally or knowingly cause] death [tø] of a [pølice service canine.]](3) It is a third-degree felony for a person to intentionally or knowingly:]](a) cause bodily injury to a police service canine;]

Endangering, injuring, or killing a public safety animal.(1) (a) As used in this section:[][(2) [It is a second-degree felony for a person to intentionally or knowingly cause] death [tø] of a [pølice service canine.]](3) It is a third-degree felony for a person to intentionally or knowingly:]](a) cause bodily injury to a police service canine;]](b) engage in conduct likely to cause bodily injury or death to a police service canine; or]

Endangering, injuring, or killing a public safety animal.(1) (a) As used in this section:[][(2) [It is a second-degree felony for a person to intentionally or knowingly cause] death [tø] of a [pølice service canine.]](3) It is a third-degree felony for a person to intentionally or knowingly:]](a) cause bodily injury to a police service canine;]](b) engage in conduct likely to cause bodily injury or death to a police service canine; or]]

(c) lay out, place, or administer any poison, trap, substance, or object which is likely to produce bodily injury or death to a police service canine.

Endangering, injuring, or killing a public safety animal.(1) (a) As used in this section:[][(2) [It is a second-degree felony for a person to intentionally or knowingly cause] death [tø] of a [pølice

SB0077 compared with SB0077S01

service canine.](3) It is a third-degree felony for a person to intentionally or knowingly:](a) cause bodily injury to a police service canine;](b) engage in conduct likely to cause bodily injury or death to a police service canine; or][

Endangering, injuring, or killing a public safety animal.(1) (a) As used in this section:][](2) [It is a second-degree felony for a person to intentionally or knowingly cause] death [to] of a [police service canine.](3) It is a third-degree felony for a person to intentionally or knowingly:](a) cause bodily injury to a police service canine;](b) engage in conduct likely to cause bodily injury or death to a police service canine; or][](4) It is a class A misdemeanor for a person to intentionally or knowingly:]

Endangering, injuring, or killing a public safety animal.(1) (a) As used in this section:][](2) [It is a second-degree felony for a person to intentionally or knowingly cause] death [to] of a [police service canine.](3) It is a third-degree felony for a person to intentionally or knowingly:](a) cause bodily injury to a police service canine;](b) engage in conduct likely to cause bodily injury or death to a police service canine; or][](4) It is a class A misdemeanor for a person to intentionally or knowingly:](a) taunt, torment, strike, or otherwise assault a police service canine;]

Endangering, injuring, or killing a public safety animal.(1) (a) As used in this section:][](2) [It is a second-degree felony for a person to intentionally or knowingly cause] death [to] of a [police service canine.](3) It is a third-degree felony for a person to intentionally or knowingly:](a) cause bodily injury to a police service canine;](b) engage in conduct likely to cause bodily injury or death to a police service canine; or][](4) It is a class A misdemeanor for a person to intentionally or knowingly:](a) taunt, torment, strike, or otherwise assault a police service canine;](b) throw any object or substance at, or in the path of, a police service canine;]

Endangering, injuring, or killing a public safety animal.(1) (a) As used in this section:][](2) [It is a second-degree felony for a person to intentionally or knowingly cause] death [to] of a [police service canine.](3) It is a third-degree felony for a person to intentionally or knowingly:](a) cause bodily injury to a police service canine;](b) engage in conduct likely to cause bodily injury or death to a police service canine; or][](4) It is a class A misdemeanor for a person to intentionally or knowingly:](a) taunt, torment, strike, or otherwise assault a police service canine;](b) throw any object or substance at, or in the path of, a police service canine;]

(c) interfere with or obstruct a police service canine, or attempt to, or interfere with the handler of the canine in a manner that inhibits, restricts, or deprives the handler of control of the canine;

SB0077 compared with SB0077S01

Endangering, injuring, or killing a public safety animal.(1) (a) As used in this section:[][(2) [It is a second-degree felony for a person to intentionally or knowingly cause] death [tø] of a [police service canine.]](3) It is a third-degree felony for a person to intentionally or knowingly:][(a) cause bodily injury to a police service canine;][(b) engage in conduct likely to cause bodily injury or death to a police service canine; or][(4) It is a class A misdemeanor for a person to intentionally or knowingly:][(a) taunt, torment, strike, or otherwise assault a police service canine;][(b) throw any object or substance at, or in the path of, a police service canine;][[]

Endangering, injuring, or killing a public safety animal.(1) (a) As used in this section:[][(2) [It is a second-degree felony for a person to intentionally or knowingly cause] death [tø] of a [police service canine.]](3) It is a third-degree felony for a person to intentionally or knowingly:][(a) cause bodily injury to a police service canine;][(b) engage in conduct likely to cause bodily injury or death to a police service canine; or][(4) It is a class A misdemeanor for a person to intentionally or knowingly:][(a) taunt, torment, strike, or otherwise assault a police service canine;][(b) throw any object or substance at, or in the path of, a police service canine;][[]

(d) release a police service canine from its area of control, such as a vehicle, kennel, or pen, or trespass in that area; or

Endangering, injuring, or killing a public safety animal.(1) (a) As used in this section:[][(2) [It is a second-degree felony for a person to intentionally or knowingly cause] death [tø] of a [police service canine.]](3) It is a third-degree felony for a person to intentionally or knowingly:][(a) cause bodily injury to a police service canine;][(b) engage in conduct likely to cause bodily injury or death to a police service canine; or][(4) It is a class A misdemeanor for a person to intentionally or knowingly:][(a) taunt, torment, strike, or otherwise assault a police service canine;][(b) throw any object or substance at, or in the path of, a police service canine;][[]

Endangering, injuring, or killing a public safety animal.(1) (a) As used in this section:[][(2) [It is a second-degree felony for a person to intentionally or knowingly cause] death [tø] of a [police service canine.]](3) It is a third-degree felony for a person to intentionally or knowingly:][(a) cause bodily injury to a police service canine;][(b) engage in conduct likely to cause bodily injury or death to a police service canine; or][(4) It is a class A misdemeanor for a person to intentionally or knowingly:][(a) taunt, torment, strike, or otherwise assault a police service canine;][(b) throw any object or substance at, or in the path of, a police service canine;][[]

(e) place any food, object, or substance into a police service canine's area of control

SB0077 compared with SB0077S01

without the permission of the handler.

Endangering, injuring, or killing a public safety animal.(1) (a) As used in this section:[][(2) [It is a second-degree felony for a person to intentionally or knowingly cause] death [to] of a [police service canine.][(3) It is a third-degree felony for a person to intentionally or knowingly:][(a) cause bodily injury to a police service canine;][(b) engage in conduct likely to cause bodily injury or death to a police service canine; or]][(4) It is a class A misdemeanor for a person to intentionally or knowingly:][(a) taunt, torment, strike, or otherwise assault a police service canine;][(b) throw any object or substance at, or in the path of, a police service canine;][[]][[]]

Endangering, injuring, or killing a public safety animal.(1) (a) As used in this section:[][(2) [It is a second-degree felony for a person to intentionally or knowingly cause] death [to] of a [police service canine.][(3) It is a third-degree felony for a person to intentionally or knowingly:][(a) cause bodily injury to a police service canine;][(b) engage in conduct likely to cause bodily injury or death to a police service canine; or]][(4) It is a class A misdemeanor for a person to intentionally or knowingly:][(a) taunt, torment, strike, or otherwise assault a police service canine;][(b) throw any object or substance at, or in the path of, a police service canine;][[]][[]][(5) (4)(a) A [police service canine] public safety animal is exempt from quarantine or

other animal control ordinances if [it] the public safety animal bites [any person] an individual while under proper [police-]supervision by a public safety organization or during routine veterinary care.

(b)

veterinary care. The [law enforcement agency] public safety organization and the [canine's] public safety animal's

veterinary care. The [law enforcement agency] public safety organization and the [canine's] handler shall make the [canine] public safety animal available for examination at [any]

a

veterinary care. The [law enforcement agency] public safety organization and the [canine's] handler shall make the [canine] public safety animal available for examination at [any] reasonable time and shall notify the local health officer if the [canine] public safety animal exhibits any abnormal behavior.

SB0077 compared with SB0077S01

exhibits any abnormal behavior.~~[(6)]~~ (5) In addition to any other penalty, ~~[a person]~~ an actor convicted of a violation of this section is liable for restitution to the owning or employing ~~[law enforcement agency]~~ public safety organization section is liable for restitution to the owning or employing ~~[law enforcement agency]~~ or individual owner of the ~~[police service canine]~~ public safety animal for the replacement, training, and veterinary costs incurred as a result of the violation of this section.

"; and

(2) Section 76-13-210, enacted in H.B. 21, be amended to read:

"76-13-210.

section. **Interference with a public safety animal.**

(1)(a) As used in this section:

- (i) "Handler" means the same as that term is defined in Section 76-13-209.
- (ii) "Public safety animal" means the same as that term is defined in Section 76-13-209.
- (iii) "Public safety organization" means the same as that term is defined in Section

148 76-13-209.

(b) Terms defined in Sections 76-1-101.5, 76-13-101, and 76-13-201 apply to this section.

(2) An actor commits interference with a public safety animal if the actor intentionally or knowingly:

- (a) taunts, torments, strikes, or otherwise assaults a public safety animal;
- (b) throws an object or substance at, or in the path of, a public safety animal;
- (c) interferes with or obstructs a public safety animal, or attempts to, or interferes with the handler of the public safety animal in a manner that inhibits, restricts, or deprives the handler of control of the public safety animal;
- (d) releases a public safety animal from the public safety animal's area of control, including a vehicle, kennel, or pen, or trespasses in that area; or
- (e) places any food, object, or substance into a public safety animal's area of control without the permission of the handler.

(3) A violation of Subsection (2) is a class A misdemeanor.

SB0077 compared with SB0077S01

(4) In addition to any other penalty, an actor convicted of a violation of this section is liable for restitution to the owning or employing public safety organization or individual owner of the public safety animal for the replacement, training, and veterinary costs incurred as a result of the violation of this section."

section. **Interference with a public safety animal.**

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