

CANINE INJURY AMENDMENTS

2020 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor: Steve R. Christiansen

Senate Sponsor: _____

LONG TITLE

General Description:

This bill amends provisions related to liability for an injury caused by a dog.

Highlighted Provisions:

This bill:

► provides that a person is not liable for an injury caused by the person's dog to another dog in certain circumstances.

Money Appropriated in this Bill:

None

Other Special Clauses:

None

Utah Code Sections Affected:

AMENDS:

18-1-1, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2019, Chapter 92

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

Section 1. Section **18-1-1** is amended to read:

18-1-1. Liability and damages for dog injury -- Dogs used in law enforcement.

(1) (a) Except as provided in ~~Subsection~~ Subsections (2) and (3), a person who owns or keeps a dog is liable for an injury caused by the dog, regardless of whether:

(i) the dog is vicious or mischievous; or



28 (ii) the owner knows the dog is vicious or mischievous.

29 (b) Damages for an injury described in Subsection (1)(a) shall be determined in
30 accordance with Section 78B-5-818.

31 (2) Neither the state nor any county, city, metro township, or town in the state nor any
32 peace officer employed by the state, a county, a city, a metro township, or a town shall be liable
33 in damages for an injury caused by a dog, if:

34 (a) the dog has been trained to assist in law enforcement; and

35 (b) the injury occurs while the dog is reasonably and carefully being used in the
36 apprehension, arrest, or location of a suspected offender or in maintaining or controlling the
37 public order.

38 (3) A person who owns or keeps a dog is not liable for an injury caused by the dog if:

39 (a) the injury is to another dog;

40 (b) the injury occurs on the person's private property; and

41 (c) the injured dog entered the person's private property without consent.