



General Assembly

February Session, 2006

Raised Bill No. 73

LCO No. 923

00923_____PS_

Referred to Committee on Public Safety and Security

Introduced by:
(PS)

AN ACT PROVIDING AN EXEMPTION FROM STRICT LIABILITY FOR POLICE DOGS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 22-357 of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2006*):

3 If any dog does [any] damage to either the body or property of any
4 person, the owner or keeper, or, if the owner or keeper is a minor, the
5 parent or guardian of such minor, shall be liable for such damage,
6 except when such damage has been occasioned to the body or property
7 of a person who, at the time such damage was sustained, was
8 committing a trespass or other tort, or was teasing, tormenting or
9 abusing such dog. If a minor, on whose behalf an action under this
10 section is brought, was under seven years of age at the time the
11 damage was done, it shall be presumed that such minor was not
12 committing a trespass or other tort, or teasing, tormenting or abusing
13 such dog, and the burden of proof thereof shall be upon the defendant
14 in such action. The provisions of this section shall not apply to any dog
15 owned by a police agency of the state or any of its political
16 subdivisions when there are reasonable grounds to believe that the

17 person injured by such dog was committing a crime.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	October 1, 2006	22-357

Statement of Purpose:

To exempt police dogs engaged in the performance of their duty from the strict liability provision of the dog bite statute.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]