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**OLR Bill Analysis**

**sSB 241**

***AN ACT CONCERNING THE PENALTY FOR THE INTENTIONAL INJURY OR KILLING OF POLICE ANIMALS OR DOGS IN VOLUNTEER CANINE SEARCH AND RESCUE TEAMS.***

**SUMMARY**

This bill increases the criminal penalty for intentionally injuring (1) an animal performing its duties under a peace officer's supervision or (2) a dog performing its duties as a member of a volunteer canine search and rescue team.

Under current law, intentionally (1) injuring such an animal is a class D felony, punishable by up to five years' imprisonment, a fine of up to \$5,000, or both, and (2) killing such an animal is an unclassified felony punishable by up to 10 years' imprisonment, a fine of up to \$10,000, or both.

The bill instead makes intentionally injuring or killing such an animal a class C felony, punishable by up to 10 years' imprisonment, a fine of up to \$10,000, or both.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2018

**COMMITTEE ACTION**

Judiciary Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 39 Nay 0 (04/02/2018)