



General Assembly

February Session, 2024

**Raised Bill No. 339**

LCO No. 2025



Referred to Committee on PUBLIC SAFETY AND SECURITY

Introduced by:  
(PS)

***AN ACT REQUIRING RESTITUTION WHEN A POLICE ANIMAL OR DOG IN A VOLUNTEER CANINE SEARCH AND RESCUE TEAM IS INJURED OR KILLED.***

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

1 Section 1. Subsections (d) and (e) of section 53-247 of the 2024  
2 supplement to the general statutes are repealed and the following is  
3 substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2024*):

4 (d) Any person who intentionally injures any animal while such  
5 animal is in the performance of its duties under the supervision of a  
6 peace officer, as defined in section 53a-3, or intentionally injures a dog  
7 that is a member of a volunteer canine search and rescue team, as  
8 defined in section 5-249, while such dog is in the performance of its  
9 duties under the supervision of the active individual member of such  
10 team, shall be guilty of a class D felony, and shall be required to pay  
11 restitution to the law enforcement unit, entity or individual that owns  
12 such animal or dog. Such restitution may include, but need not be  
13 limited to, the cost of veterinary services for the injured animal or dog  
14 and, if such animal or dog is rendered unable to perform its duties, the

15 costs and expenses of the purchase and training of a replacement animal  
16 or dog.

17 (e) Any person who intentionally kills any animal while such animal  
18 is in the performance of its duties under the supervision of a peace  
19 officer, as defined in section 53a-3, or intentionally kills a dog that is a  
20 member of a volunteer canine search and rescue team, as defined in  
21 section 5-249, while such dog is in the performance of its duties under  
22 the supervision of the active individual member of such team, shall be  
23 fined not more than ten thousand dollars or imprisoned not more than  
24 ten years, or both, and shall be required to pay restitution to the law  
25 enforcement unit, entity or individual that owned such animal or dog.  
26 Such restitution may include, but need not be limited to, the costs and  
27 expenses of the purchase and training of a replacement animal or dog.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	October 1, 2024	53-247(d) and (e)

**Statement of Purpose:**

To require restitution to the law enforcement unit, entity or individual that owns a police animal or dog in a volunteer canine search and rescue team when such animal or dog is injured or killed.

*[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.]*