ENROLLED

SENATE BILL NO. 84

(By Mr. Leonard)

PASSED April 14, 1973

In Effect 90 Days from Passage
AN ACT to amend and reenact section twelve, article twenty, chapter nineteen of the code of West Virginia, one thousand nine hundred thirty-one, as amended, relating to agriculture; dogs protected by law; unlawful killing thereof; aggrieved owner's remedy; penalties; removal of age requirement.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

That section twelve, article twenty, chapter nineteen of the code of West Virginia, one thousand nine hundred thirty-one, as amended, be amended and reenacted to read as follows:

ARTICLE 20. DOGS.

§19-20-12. Dogs protected by law; unlawful killing thereof; aggrieved owner's remedy; penalties.

1 Any dog which is registered, kept and controlled as provided in this article or any dog, irrespective of age, which shall be owned and kept by any person shall be protected by law; and any person who shall unlawfully steal, kill or injure, administer poison to or knowingly expose the same so that it shall be taken by any such dog, or shall, in any other manner, intentionally and unlawfully cause the death or injury of any such dog shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and, if such dog be of the assessed value of more than twenty dollars, shall, upon conviction, be imprisoned in the county jail for a period not in excess of twelve months, or fined not in excess of two hundred dollars, or both, in the discretion of the court; and if such dog be of twenty dollars or less in assessed value,
such person shall be imprisoned in the county jail
for a period not in excess of six months, or fined not
in excess of fifty dollars, or both, in the discretion of the
court. Any person whose dog shall be killed or injured
wrongfully or unlawfully by any other person shall have a
right of action against the person who shall so kill or in-
jure such dog, but in no case can recovery be had in excess
of the assessed value of such dog. In no case can any action
under the provisions of this section be maintained if the
dog concerned shall not have been duly registered pur-
suant to the provisions of this article or owned and kept
pursuant to the provisions of this section at the time the
cause of action shall have arisen.

It shall be the duty of all members of the department of
public safety, sheriffs, constables and police officers to aid
in the enforcement of the provisions of this article, and
for services rendered in the enforcement thereof such per-
sons shall be entitled to fees in the amounts set forth in
section eight. Such fees shall be paid by the county court
from the dog and kennel fund.
The Joint Committee on Enrolled Bills hereby certifies that
the foregoing bill is correctly enrolled.

W. Darrel Darby
Chairman Senate Committee

Chairman House Committee

Originated in the Senate.

To take effect ninety days from passage.

Howard W. Baxton
Clerk of the Senate

L. H. Blankenship
Clerk of the House of Delegates

W. T. Starrett, Jr.
President of the Senate

Speaker House of Delegates

The within approved this the 25th
day of April, 1973.

A. E. Shaver, Jr.
Governor
PRESENTED TO THE GOVERNOR

Date 4/25/73
Time 3:35 p.m.