

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2007**

**SENATE BILL 34  
RATIFIED BILL**

AN ACT TO MAKE IT A CLASS H FELONY TO WILLFULLY KILL A LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY ANIMAL OR ASSISTANCE ANIMAL AND TO MAKE IT AN AGGRAVATING CIRCUMSTANCE FOR OTHER CRIMINAL OFFENSES THAT A LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY ANIMAL OR ASSISTANCE ANIMAL WAS SERIOUSLY HARMED OR KILLED WHILE THE ANIMAL WAS ENGAGED IN PERFORMING OFFICIAL DUTIES.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

**SECTION 1.** G.S. 14-163.1 is amended by adding a new subsection to read as follows:

"(a1) Any person who knows or has reason to know that an animal is a law enforcement agency animal or an assistance animal and who willfully kills the animal is guilty of a Class H felony."

**SECTION 2.** G.S. 15A-1340.16(d) is amended by adding a new subdivision to read:

"(6a) The offense was committed against or proximately caused serious harm as defined in G.S. 14-163.1 or death to a law enforcement agency animal or assistance animal as defined in G.S. 14-163.1, while engaged in the performance of the animal's official duties."

**SECTION 3.** This act becomes effective December 1, 2007, and applies to offenses committed on or after that date.

In the General Assembly read three times and ratified this the 5<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2007.

---

Beverly E. Perdue  
President of the Senate

---

Joe Hackney  
Speaker of the House of Representatives

---

Michael F. Easley  
Governor

Approved \_\_\_\_\_m. this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2007