

CHAPTER 29**(HB 93)**

AN ACT relating to assaults on animals utilized for the principal purpose of law enforcement.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:

➔Section 1. KRS 525.200 is amended to read as follows:

- (1) A person is guilty of assault on a service animal in the first degree when, *without legal justification or lawful authority*:
 - (a) *He or she intentionally kills or causes serious physical injury to a service animal;*
 - (b) *He or she intentionally causes physical injury to a service animal by means of a deadly weapon or dangerous instrument; or*
 - (c) *He or she wantonly causes serious physical injury to a service animal by means of a deadly weapon or dangerous instrument*~~[he intentionally and without legal justification or lawful authority kills or causes physical injury to a service animal to the extent that a service animal becomes physically incapable of ever returning to service].~~
- (2) *For the purposes of this section, "service animal" has the same meaning as defined in KRS 525.010, except that "service animal" does not include assistance dogs as defined in KRS 525.010(6)(h).*
- (3) Assault on a service animal in the first degree is a Class D felony.

Signed by Governor March 20, 2017.