

# HOUSE BILL No. 1110

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## DIGEST OF INTRODUCED BILL

**Citations Affected:** IC 15-20-1-3.

**Synopsis:** Strict liability for dog bites. Holds a dog owner or custodian strictly liable for a dog bite or injury when: (1) a dog bites or injures a person without provocation; and (2) the person is bitten or injured while in a location the person is legally authorized to occupy.

**Effective:** July 1, 2019.

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## Bartels

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January 7, 2019, read first time and referred to Committee on Judiciary.

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First Regular Session of the 121st General Assembly (2019)

PRINTING CODE. Amendments: Whenever an existing statute (or a section of the Indiana Constitution) is being amended, the text of the existing provision will appear in this style type, additions will appear in **this style type**, and deletions will appear in ~~this style type~~.

Additions: Whenever a new statutory provision is being enacted (or a new constitutional provision adopted), the text of the new provision will appear in **this style type**. Also, the word **NEW** will appear in that style type in the introductory clause of each SECTION that adds a new provision to the Indiana Code or the Indiana Constitution.

Conflict reconciliation: Text in a statute in *this style type* or ~~this style type~~ reconciles conflicts between statutes enacted by the 2018 Regular and Special Session of the General Assembly.

# HOUSE BILL No. 1110

A BILL FOR AN ACT to amend the Indiana Code concerning agriculture and animals.

*Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:*

1 SECTION 1. IC 15-20-1-3, AS ADDED BY P.L.2-2008, SECTION  
2 11, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1,  
3 2019]: Sec. 3. (a) If a dog, without provocation, bites **or injures** a  
4 person:  
5 (1) who is acting peaceably; and  
6 (2) who is in a location ~~where~~ the person ~~may be required to be in~~  
7 ~~order to discharge a duty imposed upon the person by:~~  
8 (A) ~~the laws of Indiana;~~  
9 (B) ~~the laws of the United States; or~~  
10 (C) ~~the postal regulations of the United States; is legally~~  
11 **authorized to occupy;**  
12 the owner **or custodian** of the dog is liable for all damages, **including**  
13 **punitive damages**, suffered by the person bitten **or injured**.  
14 (b) The owner **or custodian** of a dog described in subsection (a) is  
15 liable for **all** damages, **including punitive damages**, even if:  
16 (1) the dog has not previously behaved in a vicious manner; or



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(2) the owner has no knowledge of prior vicious behavior by the dog.

