

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 1456 Session of
2025

INTRODUCED BY CEPEDA-FREYTIZ, MADDEN, GIRAL, SANCHEZ, KHAN,
PROBST, STEELE, HILL-EVANS, McNEILL, HOHENSTEIN, WAXMAN,
CONKLIN, HOWARD AND CERRATO, MAY 13, 2025

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND RURAL AFFAIRS,
MAY 13, 2025

AN ACT

1 Amending Title 18 (Crimes and Offenses) of the Pennsylvania
2 Consolidated Statutes, in riot, disorderly conduct and
3 related offenses, providing for Statewide toll-free animal
4 abuse reporting telephone number.

5 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
6 hereby enacts as follows:

7 Section 1. Title 18 of the Pennsylvania Consolidated
8 Statutes is amended by adding a section to read:

9 § 5560.1. Statewide toll-free animal abuse reporting telephone
10 number.

11 (a) Establishment.--The Pennsylvania State Police shall
12 establish a Statewide toll-free animal abuse reporting telephone
13 number for use by a person to report cases of suspected animal
14 abuse or neglect under this subchapter.

15 (b) Reporting process.--The Pennsylvania State Police shall
16 ensure that the Statewide toll-free animal abuse reporting
17 telephone number is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week,
18 for the reporting of cases of suspected animal abuse or neglect.

1 The Pennsylvania State Police shall maintain each reported case
2 of suspected animal abuse or neglect to the Statewide toll-free
3 animal abuse reporting telephone number in a database, including
4 contact information for the reporter and the location of the
5 suspected animal abuse or neglect. The Pennsylvania State Police
6 shall refer each report for investigation to the appropriate law
7 enforcement officer or provide a copy of each report to the
8 humane society police officer with jurisdiction. If there is
9 insufficient information provided in a report to establish the
10 location of the suspected animal abuse or neglect, the
11 Pennsylvania State Police shall maintain the report in the
12 database, but the Pennsylvania State Police may not refer the
13 report for investigation under this subsection.

14 (c) Database accessibility.--An appropriate law enforcement
15 officer or a humane society police officer with jurisdiction may
16 access the information in the database under subsection (b) only
17 to investigate a report of a case of suspected animal abuse or
18 neglect. The Pennsylvania State Police shall annually compile
19 information on the number, general location and type of reports
20 to the Statewide toll-free animal abuse reporting telephone
21 number and submit the information to the chairperson and
22 minority chairperson of the Judiciary Committee of the Senate
23 and chairperson and minority chairperson of the Judiciary
24 Committee of the House of Representatives no later than June 30,
25 2026, and each year thereafter.

26 (d) Telephone number accessibility.--The Pennsylvania State
27 Police and the Department of Agriculture shall make the
28 Statewide toll-free animal abuse reporting telephone number
29 available on their publicly accessible Internet websites.

30 (e) Assessment.--In addition to any other penalties that may

1 be imposed for a violation of this subchapter, a person
2 convicted of an offense under this subchapter shall, upon
3 conviction, be sentenced to pay an additional fine of not less
4 than \$25. Fines collected under this subchapter shall be
5 transmitted to the Pennsylvania State Police for maintenance of
6 the Statewide toll-free animal abuse reporting telephone number.

7 Section 2. This act shall take effect in 60 days.