

# 2005 SESSION

INTRODUCED

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## HOUSE BILL NO. 646

Offered January 14, 2004

Prefiled January 13, 2004

*A BILL to amend and reenact § 18.2-144 of the Code of Virginia, relating to maiming, killing or poisoning animals; penalties.*

Patrons—Bell and Albo

Referred to Committee for Courts of Justice

### **Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**

#### **1. That § 18.2-144 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:**

§ 18.2-144. Maiming, killing or poisoning animals, fowl, etc.

Except as otherwise provided for by law, if any person maliciously shoot, stab, wound or otherwise cause bodily injury to, or administer poison to or expose poison with intent that it be taken by, any horse, mule, pony, cattle, swine, or other livestock, or companion animal of another, with intent to maim, disfigure, disable or kill the same, or if he do any of the foregoing acts to any animal of his own with intent to defraud any insurer thereof, he shall be guilty of a Class 5 felony. If any person do any of the foregoing acts to any fowl or to any companion animal with any of the aforesaid intents, he shall be guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor, except that any second or subsequent offense shall be a Class 6 felony if the current offense or any previous offense resulted in the death of an animal or the euthanasia of an animal based on the recommendation of a licensed veterinarian upon determination that such euthanasia was necessary due to the condition of the animal, and such condition was a direct result of a violation of this section.

**2. That the provisions of this act may result in a net increase in periods of imprisonment or commitment. Pursuant to § 30-19.1:4, the estimated amount of the necessary appropriation cannot be determined for periods of imprisonment in state adult correctional facilities and is \$0 for periods of commitment to the custody of the Department of Juvenile Justice.**

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