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SENATE BILL NO. 337

Offered January 8, 2020

Prefiled January 6, 2020

A BILL to amend the Code of Virginia by adding in Article 9 of Chapter 65 of Title 3.2 a section numbered 3.2-6573.1, relating to the establishment of an Animal Cruelty Conviction List.

Patron—Stuart

Referred to Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Natural Resources

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding in Article 9 of Chapter 65 of Title 3.2 a section numbered 3.2-6573.1 as follows:

§ 3.2-6573.1. Animal Cruelty Conviction List established.

The Superintendent of State Police shall establish, organize, and maintain within the Department of State Police, by January 1, 2023, a computerized Animal Cruelty Conviction List (the List) as a database of information regarding persons convicted on or after July 1, 2020, of a felony violation of the prohibition against (i) cruelty to animals pursuant to § 3.2-6570; (ii) animal fighting pursuant to § 3.2-6571; (iii) maiming, killing, or poisoning an animal pursuant to § 18.2-144; or (iv) killing or injuring a police animal pursuant to § 18.2-144.1. Information on the List shall include the name of the offender at the time of conviction as well as the offense for which the offender was convicted and the date and jurisdiction of conviction. Access to the List shall be made available to the public on the website of the Department of State Police.

Any person convicted of an offense listed in clauses (i) through (iv) shall pay a fee upon conviction in the amount of \$50 per conviction that shall be used by the State Police to pay for the maintenance of the List. The State Police shall automatically purge from the List a person's name and information 15 years after its listing if he has no additional felony conviction of an offense listed in this section.

INTRODUCED

SB337