

1 VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY — CHAPTER

2 *An Act to amend the Code of Virginia by adding a section numbered 3.1-796.128:1, relating to*
3 *interference with a guide or leader dog; penalty.*

4 [H 1681]

5 Approved

6 **Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**7 **1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding a section numbered 3.1-769.128:1 as follows:**8 *§ 3.1-796.128:1. Intentional interference with a guide or leader dog; penalty.*

9 *A. It is unlawful for a person to, without just cause, willfully impede or interfere with the duties*
10 *performed by a dog if the person knows or has reason to believe the dog is a guide or leader dog. A*
11 *violation of this subsection is punishable as a Class 3 misdemeanor.*

12 *B. It is unlawful for a person to, without just cause, willfully injure a dog if the person knows or has*
13 *reason to believe the dog is a guide or leader dog. A violation of this subsection is punishable as a*
14 *Class 1 misdemeanor.*

15 *"Guide or leader dog" means a dog that (i) serves as a dog guide for a blind person as defined in*
16 *§ 63.1-142 or for a person with a visual disability, (ii) serves as a listener for a deaf or hard-of-hearing*
17 *person as defined in § 63.1-85.3:1, or (iii) provides support or assistance for a physically disabled or*
18 *handicapped person.*

ENROLLED

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