

# SENATE BILL REPORT

## SB 6122

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As of February 3, 2012

**Title:** An act relating to unattended pet animals with a choke chain.

**Brief Description:** Concerning unattended pet animals with a choke chain.

**Sponsors:** Senator Carrell.

**Brief History:**

**Committee Activity:** Judiciary: 1/26/12.

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### SENATE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

**Staff:** Katherine Taylor (786-7434)

**Background:** Any person who, with intent to deprive or defraud the owner, does any of the following is guilty of a gross misdemeanor and required to pay a mandatory fine of not less than \$500, except as provided otherwise, per pet animal:

- takes, leads away, confines, secretes, or converts any pet animal;
- conceals the identity of any pet animal or its owner by obscuring, altering, or removing from the pet animal any collar, tag, license, tattoo, or other identifying device or mark; or
- willfully or recklessly kills or injures any pet animal, unless excused by law.

**Summary of Bill:** The bill as referred to committee not considered.

**Summary of Bill (Proposed Substitute):** Any person who willfully or recklessly kills or injures any pet animal by leaving it unattended with a choke chain for more than a de minimus period of time is guilty of a misdemeanor, punishable by up to 90 days in jail and a mandatory fine of not less than \$500 per pet animal.

Any person licensed in veterinary medicine, surgery, or dentistry is prohibited from leaving any pet animal with a choke chain unattended for more than a de minimus period of time. Any person certified or licensed in animal massage is prohibited from leaving any pet animal with a choke chain unattended for more than a de minimus period of time.

**Appropriation:** None.

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*This analysis was prepared by non-partisan legislative staff for the use of legislative members in their deliberations. This analysis is not a part of the legislation nor does it constitute a statement of legislative intent.*

**Fiscal Note:** Requested on January 16, 2012.

**Committee/Commission/Task Force Created:** No.

**Effective Date:** The bill takes effect on July 1, 2012.