

## **COMMITTEE AMENDMENT ANALYSIS**

**Bill:** House Bill 165

**Printer's No.:** 111

**Amendment No.:** A09361

**Prepared by:** Gregg Warner

**Summary:** The bill amends section 5511 of the Crimes Code to make a person guilty of a misdemeanor of the second degree if the person owns or co-owns a dog that kills, maims or disfigures a guide dog, a hearing dog or a service dog. The person is culpable only when the dog attacks without provocation and the person knew or should have known that the dog had a propensity to attack human beings or domestic animals without provocation. The amendment reduces the grading of the offense from a second degree misdemeanor to a third degree misdemeanor. The lower grading is appropriate because the bill does not address a situation where the person himself killed, maimed or disfigured the guide, hearing or service dog. Instead the bill addresses the situation where one dog with a propensity to be dangerous attacked another dog which happened to be a guide, hearing or service dog.