

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT ANALYSIS

Bill: House Bill 1750

Printer's No.: 2650

Amendment No.: A04814

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Summary: This amendment further amends section 5511 of the Crimes Code, Title 18 of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, relating to cruelty to animals, to prohibit the use of dogs, cats or other live animals or fowl for targets at trap shoots or block shoots.

Under new subsection (c.2) a person commits a summary offense if the person operates a trap shoot or block shoot in which dogs, cats or other live animals or fowl are used as targets. This prohibition does not apply to any activity permitted under the Game and Wildlife Code, Title 34 of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, and applicable regulations.

“Fowl” is defined as a bird, except a game bird as defined under the Game and Wildlife Code.

A “block shoot” is defined as an event during which participants shoot or attempt to shoot targets that are launched or otherwise immediately presented to the shooter with electronic or mechanical assistance from a fixed location or locations within a predefined shooting field; or affixed to a tethering device or otherwise impaired from ordinary movement when presented to the shooter. A “trap shoot” is defined as a block shoot.

Last session the Senate Judiciary Committee reported from committee Senate Bill 626, a very similar bill to this amendment. Senate Bill 626 was reintroduced as Senate Bill 510 and Senate Bill 510 is currently pending before the judiciary committee.