
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 1334 Session of
2023

INTRODUCED BY CONKLIN, CERRATO, FREEMAN, GILLEN, HADDOCK, HILL-
EVANS, HOWARD, KINSEY, MADDEN, N. NELSON AND SANCHEZ,
JUNE 7, 2023

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON VETERANS AFFAIRS AND EMERGENCY
PREPAREDNESS, JUNE 7, 2023

AN ACT

1 Amending Title 75 (Vehicles) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated
2 Statutes, in other required equipment, providing for heat
3 detection devices in emergency vehicles.

4 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
5 hereby enacts as follows:

6 Section 1. Title 75 of the Pennsylvania Consolidated
7 Statutes is amended by adding a section to read:

8 § 4574. Heat detection devices in emergency vehicles.

9 (a) General rule.--An emergency vehicle transporting a K-9
10 officer shall be equipped with a heat detection device.

11 (b) Heat detection device.--A heat detection device
12 installed in an emergency vehicle transporting a K-9 officer
13 shall, at a minimum:

14 (1) alert the vehicle operator that the vehicle has a
15 cabin temperature that is unsafe for the K-9 officer by
16 utilizing the horn, sirens and lights; and

17 (2) automatically roll down two windows when the vehicle

1 reaches an unsafe cabin temperature.

2 (c) Regulations.--The department shall promulgate
3 regulations governing the type, function, installation,
4 temperature limits and use of heat detection devices, taking
5 into consideration different requirements for different classes
6 or types of vehicles. The department shall have the authority to
7 regulate the performance of heat detection devices on a vehicle.

8 (d) Definitions.--As used in this section, the following
9 words and phrases shall have the meanings given to them in this
10 subsection unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

11 "Heat detection device." An apparatus that measures the
12 temperature inside a vehicle passenger space, alerts the vehicle
13 operator of unsafe temperatures inside the vehicle and activates
14 vehicle electromechanical systems in order to cool the vehicle
15 to a safe temperature.

16 "K-9 officer." A dog used by the Pennsylvania State Police,
17 a police department established by a metropolitan transportation
18 authority operating under 74 Pa.C.S. Ch. 17 (relating to
19 metropolitan transportation authorities), a police department
20 established under the act of April 6, 1956 (1955 P.L.1414,
21 No.465), known as the Second Class County Port Authority Act,
22 the Capitol Police, the Department of Corrections, a county
23 facility or office or a municipal police department, fire
24 department, search and rescue unit or agency or handler under
25 the supervision of the department, search and rescue unit or
26 agency in the performance of the functions or duties of the
27 department, search and rescue unit or agency, whether the animal
28 is on duty or not on duty. The term includes an accelerant
29 detection dog, bomb detection dog, narcotic detection dog,
30 search and rescue dog and tracking animal.

1 Section 2. This act shall take effect in 60 days.