



104TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2025 and 2026

SB4180

Introduced 3/24/2026, by Sen. Jil Tracy

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

510 ILCS 5/16

from Ch. 8, par. 366

Amends the Animal Control Act. In provisions regarding civil liability for animal attacks or injuries, deletes a provision regarding an attempt to attack a person. Provides that, in addition to civil liability, an owner is guilty of specified criminal offenses if the owner negligently fails to provide adequate care or adequate control of a dog or other animal that attacks or injures a person. Creates a Class A misdemeanor, a Class 4 felony for damages exceeding \$750 or for serious bodily injury, and a Class 3 felony if the victim dies. Defines "animal attack", "serious bodily injury", and "victim of the animal attack". Effective immediately.

LRB104 21053 BDA 35568 b

1 AN ACT concerning animals.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The Animal Control Act is amended by changing
5 Section 16 as follows:

6 (510 ILCS 5/16) (from Ch. 8, par. 366)

7 Sec. 16. Animal attacks or injuries. If a dog or other
8 animal, without provocation, attacks, ~~attempts to attack,~~ or
9 injures any person who is peaceably conducting himself or
10 herself in any place where he or she may lawfully be, the owner
11 of the such dog or other animal is liable in civil damages to
12 the such person who is the victim of the animal attack for the
13 full amount of the injury proximately caused thereby. In
14 addition, if the owner of the animal negligently fails to
15 provide adequate care or adequate control of the animal
16 proximately causing the damage or injury under this Section:

17 (1) the owner of the animal is guilty of a Class A
18 misdemeanor;

19 (2) the owner of the animal is guilty of a Class 4
20 felony if the damage proximately caused by the animal
21 attack exceeds \$750 or if the person who is the victim of
22 the animal attack suffers a serious bodily injury; or

23 (3) the owner of the animal is guilty of a Class 3

1 felony if the person who is the victim of the animal attack
2 dies.

3 In this Section:

4 "Animal attack" means the situation in which a dog or
5 other animal, without provocation, attacks or injures any
6 person who is peaceably conducting himself or herself in any
7 place where he or she may lawfully be.

8 "Serious bodily injury" means a bodily injury that creates
9 a substantial risk of death or that causes serious
10 disfigurement or protracted loss or impairment of the function
11 of any part of the body.

12 "Victim of the animal attack" means the person who the dog
13 or other animal, without provocation, attacks or injures while
14 the person peaceably is conducting himself or herself in any
15 place where he or she may lawfully be.

16 (Source: P.A. 94-819, eff. 5-31-06.)

17 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon
18 becoming law.