STATE OF NEW YORK

5445

2021-2022 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

March 5, 2021

Introduced by Sen. O'MARA -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Agriculture

AN ACT to amend the agriculture and markets law, in relation to including reckless operation of a motor vehicle resulting in the death or serious injury of a companion animal as aggravated animal cruelty

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

Section 1. Subdivision 1 of section 353-a of the agriculture and markets law, as added by chapter 118 of the laws of 1999, is amended to read as follows:

1. A person is guilty of aggravated cruelty to animals when, with no justifiable purpose, he or she**: (a)** intentionally kills or intentionally causes serious physical injury to a companion animal with aggravated cruelty. For purposes of this section, "aggravated cruelty" shall mean conduct which: (i) is intended to cause extreme physical pain; or (ii) is done or carried out in an especially depraved or sadistic manner**; or**

(b) causes the death or causes serious physical injury to a companion animal while recklessly operating a motor vehicle.

§ 2. This act shall take effect on the ninetieth day after it shall have become a law.

EXPLANATION--Matter in ***italics*** (underscored) is new; matter in brackets [-] is old law to be omitted.

LBD10049-01-1