

HOUSE SUBSTITUTE TO SENATE BILL 16

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Article 1 of Chapter 8 of Title 4 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated,
2 relating to general provisions regarding dogs, so as to provide for a misdemeanor for
3 removing certain collars from dogs; to provide for restitution; to provide for exemptions; to
4 provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

6 **SECTION 1.**

7 Article 1 of Chapter 8 of Title 4 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to
8 general provisions regarding dogs, is amended by adding a new Code section to read as
9 follows:

10 "4-8-6.1.

11 (a) For the purposes of this Code section, the term 'collar' means any electronic or radio
12 transmitting collar that has the purpose of tracking the location of a dog.

13 (b) No person shall remove a collar from a dog without permission from the dog's owner
14 with the intention of preventing or hindering the owner from locating such dog, and if such
15 dog is lost or killed as a result of the violator's removal of such collar, the violator shall be
16 required to pay the dog's owner restitution in the amount of the actual value of the dog and
17 any associated veterinary expenses.

18 (c) This Code section shall not apply to an owner or lessee of real property who removes
19 a collar from a dog caught on his or her owned or leased property while such dog remains
20 on such property if such owner or lessee gives notice of such action within 24 hours to the
21 county or municipal law enforcement agency having territorial jurisdiction."

22 **SECTION 2.**

23 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.