CS/SB 96 – Police, Fire, and Search and Rescue Dogs and Police Horses

This bill amends s. 843.19, F.S., inserting "canine" wherever the word dog was used and increasing the existing Level 3, 3rd degree felony so that "any person who intentionally and knowingly, without lawful cause or justification, causes great bodily harm, permanent disability, or death to, or uses a deadly weapon upon, a police canine, fire canine, SAR canine, or police horse" now commits a **Level 3**, 2nd **degree felony** (s. 843.19(2)(a), F.S.).

Per DOC, in FY 17-18, 1 (adj.) offender was sentenced for the Level 3, 3rd degree felony under s. 843.19, F.S., with no offenders sentenced to prison.

In FY 17-18, the incarceration rate for a Level 3, 2nd degree felony was 14.3%.

CONFERENCE ADOPTED ESTIMATE: Positive Insignificant

Requested by: Senate