

2026 SESSION

INTRODUCED

26102322D

1 **HOUSE BILL NO. 673**

2 Offered January 14, 2026

3 Prefiled January 13, 2026

4 *A BILL to amend the Code of Virginia by adding in Article 9 of Chapter 65 of Title 3.2 a section numbered*
5 *3.2-6573.2, relating to establishment of Animal Cruelty Conviction List.*

6 Patron—McLaughlin

7 _____
8 Committee Referral Pending
9

10 **Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**

11 **1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding in Article 9 of Chapter 65 of Title 3.2 a section**
12 **numbered 3.2-6573.2 as follows:**

13 **§ 3.2-6573.2. Animal Cruelty Conviction List established.**

14 *A. The Superintendent of State Police shall maintain within the Department of State Police a*
15 *computerized Animal Cruelty Conviction List (the List) as a database of information regarding persons*
16 *convicted of a felony violation of the prohibition against (i) cruelty to animals as provided by § 3.2-6570; (ii)*
17 *animal fighting as provided by § 3.2-6571; (iii) maiming, killing, or poisoning an animal as provided by*
18 *§ 18.2-144; or (iv) killing or injuring a police animal as provided by § 18.2-144.1. Information on the List*
19 *shall include the name of the offender at the time of conviction as well as the offense for which the offender*
20 *was convicted and the date and jurisdiction of conviction. The List shall be made publicly available on the*
21 *Department of State Police's website.*

22 *B. Any person convicted of an offense listed in subsection A shall pay a fee upon conviction in the amount*
23 *of \$50 per conviction that shall be used by the Department of State Police to pay for the maintenance of the*
24 *List. The Department of State Police shall automatically purge from the List a person's name and information*
25 *15 years after its listing if he has no additional felony conviction of an offense listed in this section.*

26 *C. The Department of State Police shall develop forms to implement and enforce the provisions of this*
27 *section, including the operation and maintenance of the List and the removal of the records of persons who*
28 *are deceased, whose convictions have been reversed, or who have been pardoned.*

29 **2. That the Superintendent of State Police shall establish the Animal Cruelty Conviction List required**
30 **pursuant to the provisions of § 3.2-6573.2 of the Code of Virginia, as created by this act, no later than**
31 **January 1, 2028.**

32 **3. That the Animal Cruelty Conviction List required pursuant to the provisions of § 3.2-6573.2 of the**
33 **Code of Virginia, as created by this act, shall contain the information required by § 3.2-6573.2 of the**
34 **Code of Virginia, as created by this act, for all persons convicted on or after July 1, 2026, of any felony**
35 **violation enumerated in § 3.2-6573.2 of the Code of Virginia, as created by this act.**

INTRODUCED

HB673