

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the  
**LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY**  
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library  
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from scanned originals with text recognition applied  
(searchable text may contain some errors and/or omissions)

---

---

ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTH LEGISLATURE

---

---

Legislative Document

No. 359

H. P. 270

House of Representatives, January 26, 1971

Referred to Committee on Legal Affairs. Sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

BERTHA W. JOHNSON, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Good of Westfield.

---

---

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED  
SEVENTY-ONE

---

AN ACT Relating to the Control of Dogs.

---

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine, as follows:

Sec. 1. R. S., T. 7, §§ 3454-3457, additional. Title 7 of the Revised Statutes is amended by adding sections 3454 to 3457 to read as follows:

§ 3454. License necessary

No dog shall be kept within the limits of this State unless such dog shall have been licensed by its owner in accordance with the laws of Maine.

“Owner” means any person or persons, firm, association or corporation owning, keeping or harboring a dog.

§ 3455. Dogs not to run at large

It shall be unlawful for the owner of any dog, licensed or unlicensed, to permit such dog to run at large, except when used for hunting.

“At large” means off the premises of the owner and not under the control of any person by means of a chain, rope or cord of sufficient strength to control the action of such dog, or such other personal presence and attention as will reasonably control the conduct of such dog.

§ 3456. —Disposal

Any police officer, sheriff, deputy sheriff, game warden or constable shall seize, impound or restrain any dog in violation of section 3455 and deliver such dog to any person or shelter authorized to board dogs by the Department of Agriculture under section 3406. Such dogs shall be handled as strays and abandoned dogs.

## § 3457. Penalties

Instead of seizing and impounding the dog, the officer, having jurisdiction, may prosecute the owner of any dog running at large, and any person upon conviction shall be punished by a fine or not less than \$25 nor more than \$100.

Sec. 2. R. S., T. 7, § 3406, amended. The 2nd and 3rd sentences of section 3406 of Title 7 of the Revised Statutes, as amended, are further amended to read as follows:

Any licensed veterinarian, humane society or shelter accepting such a sick, stray, injured or abandoned dog shall keep the same for a period of ~~7~~ 5 days and shall be entitled to receive from the State the sum of \$1.50 per day for such period or part thereof as they shall provide food and shelter, provided such licensed veterinarian, humane society or shelter shall notify the clerk of their respective municipality within 24 hours after accepting such a dog, such notice to include a detailed description of the dog and the circumstances of its finding. Upon the expiration of said ~~7~~ 5 days if the owner of the dog has not appeared to claim the same then said licensed veterinarian, humane society or shelter may give away, sell or otherwise humanely dispose of said dog.

## STATEMENT OF FACT

The purpose of this bill is to control and regulate dogs.