

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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FIRST REGULAR SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND NINTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 977

H. P. 775

House of Representatives, March 5, 1979

Referred to the Committee on Agriculture. Sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Mrs. Hutchings of Lincolnville.

Cosponsors: Mr. Wyman of Pittsfield and Mrs. Sewall of Newcastle.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-NINE

AN ACT Relating to License Fees for Dogs.

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

Sec. 1. 7 MRSA § 3451, 2nd ¶, first 3 sentences, as last amended by PL 1975, c. 391, § 1, are repealed and the following enacted in their place:

A fee of \$5.50 shall be paid the city or town clerk for each license issued on all dogs 6 months old or older capable of producing young. All dogs shall be considered capable of producing young unless a certificate issued by any licensed veterinarian, or any previous license record, is presented from a licensed veterinarian stating that the dog, if female, was made incapable of producing young by spaying by him or, if male, was made incapable of producing young by sterilization by him. When such certificate accompanies the application, a fee of \$1.50 shall be paid on such neutered dogs.

Sec. 2. 7 MRSA § 3451, 2nd ¶, 4th sentence, as amended by PL 1965, c. 193, § 3, is further amended to read:

In addition to the amount paid for license and tag, each applicant shall pay the city or town clerk ~~50¢~~ **\$1** for recording and making a return to the Commissioner of Agriculture, except that a license and tag shall be issued by the city or town clerk,

upon application, for any trained guide dog owned or kept by a blind person without payment of any fee required under this section.

Sec. 3. 7 MRSA § 3452, as amended by PL 1977, c. 579, Section C, §§ 1 and 2, is further amended by adding at the end the following new sentence.

Humane societies, shelters and other municipal or regional shelters approved by the commissioner under section 3406 may apply to the Department of Agriculture through the appropriate municipal clerk's office on or after January 1st of each year for reimbursement to the municipal office in the amount of \$4 for each license issued for unaltered male dogs in that municipality during the previous calendar year, the reimbursement to be paid directly to the shelter submitting the application. The reimbursement will be automatically approved by the Department of Agriculture once the shelter's approval by the commissioner under section 3406 has been approved.

STATEMENT OF FACT

The purpose of this bill is to curb the overpopulation of dogs and to raise revenue for approved municipal and regional animal shelters by charging the same license fee for unaltered male dogs as is presently charged for unaltered female dogs.