

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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FIRST REGULAR SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTEENTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

NO. 1053

H.P. 781 House of Representatives, April 1, 1987
Reference to the Committee on Agriculture suggested and
ordered printed.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk
Presented by Representative NORTON of Winthrop.
Cosponsored by Representative CONLEY of Portland. (By
Request)

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD
NINETEEN HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-SEVEN

AN ACT to Mark Animals for Identification of
Ownership.

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

17 MRSA c. 44 is enacted to read:

CHAPTER 44

MARKING OF ANIMALS

§1241. Marking of animals for identification

1. Marking required. Any dog or cat which is
offered for sale or sold by a dealer, pet shop or
other business, or which is offered for placement or
placed by an animal shelter or similar organization,

1 shall be permanently marked with an identification
2 number. The marking may be accomplished by tatoos,
3 implant or other method approved by the Commissioner
4 of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources.

5 2. Prohibition. It is unlawful for any dog or
6 cat to be sold, offered for sale, placed or offered
7 for placement by any person subject to subsection 1,
8 without approved marking. Any person who violates
9 this subsection commits a civil violation for which a
10 forfeiture of not less than \$25 nor more than \$100
11 shall be adjudged.

12 3. Registry. The Department of Agriculture,
13 Food and Rural Resources shall maintain a register of
14 cat and dog identification numbers and may assess a
15 fee of up to \$1 per animal to cover the cost.

16 STATEMENT OF FACT

17 Permanent marking of dogs and cats would serve
18 several humane purposes: Recovery of lost pets,
19 identifying the person responsible for abandoned ani-
20 mals, and reduction of damage to deer by dogs running
21 at large. The bill requires such marking for dogs
22 and cats sold by a business organization or placed by
23 a shelter.

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