



117th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1995

Legislative Document

No. 1452

H.P. 1033

House of Representatives, May 2, 1995

An Act to Ban the Sale, Breeding or Possession of Canine Hybrids.

Reference to the Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry suggested and ordered printed.

JOSEPH W. MAYO, Clerk

Presented by Representative SAVAGE of Union. Cosponsored by Representatives: DAMREN of Belgrade, JONES of Pittsfield, LANE of Enfield, LOVETT of Scarborough.

	Sec. 1. 7 MRSA c. 745 is enacted to read:
	CHAPTER 745
	CANINE HYBRIDS
64201	
<u>94201</u>	. Definitions
	As used in this chapter, unless the context other ates, the following terms have the following meanings.
	1. Canine. "Canine" means a member of the family Can sting of the following mammal species: dogs, wol- ils, foxes and coyotes.
<u>previ</u> repre	2. Canine hybrid. "Canine hybrid" means a canine that a wild canine or canine hybrid as an ancestor within ous 4 generations. "Canine hybrid" includes a ca sented by its owner or former owner to be a wolf dog, co ther canine hybrid offspring of a wild canine.
diffe	 Hybrid. "Hybrid" means an offspring of 2 animals erent species or genera. Owner. "Owner" means any person keeping or had
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<u>charç</u> <u>canir</u> rents	4. Owner. "Owner" means any person keeping or have or control of a canine hybrid or feeding or allowing the hybrid to remain on property that the person owns is. The term does not apply to veterinarians or ke
<u>charc</u> <u>canir</u> <u>rents</u> <u>opera</u>	4. Owner. "Owner" means any person keeping or have or control of a canine hybrid or feeding or allowing hybrid to remain on property that the person owns is. The term does not apply to veterinarians or kew tors temporarily keeping on their premises canine hybrid
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<u>charç</u> <u>canir</u> <u>rents</u> <u>opers</u> <u>owned</u> §4202	4. Owner. "Owner" means any person keeping or have or control of a canine hybrid or feeding or allowing the hybrid to remain on property that the person owns is. The term does not apply to veterinarians or kentors temporarily keeping on their premises canine hybed by other persons.
charç canir rents opera owned §4202 trade cause	 4. Owner. "Owner" means any person keeping or have or control of a canine hybrid or feeding or allowing or hybrid to remain on property that the person owns is. The term does not apply to veterinarians or keepings on their premises canine hybrid by other persons. 2. Prohibition 1. Prohibited acts. A person may not sell, offer for set, give away, acquire, import, export, breed, release to be released a canine hybrid in the State, except
charg canir rents opera owned §4202 trade cause	 4. Owner. "Owner" means any person keeping or have or control of a canine hybrid or feeding or allowing the hybrid to remain on property that the person owns is. The term does not apply to veterinarians or keeping on their premises canine hybrid by other persons. 2. Prohibition 1. Prohibited acts. A person may not sell, offer for set, give away, acquire, import, export, breed, release
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charc canir rents opera owned §4202 trade cause provi	 A. Owner. "Owner" means any person keeping or have or control of a canine hybrid or feeding or allowing the hybrid to remain on property that the person owns is. The term does not apply to veterinarians or keepings on their premises canine hybrid by other persons. Prohibition Prohibited acts. A person may not sell, offer for set of the released a canine hybrid in the State, except is to be released a canine hybrid in the State, except is to be released a canine hybrid in the state. Limitations on possession. A person may not posses he hybrid, except for:

sold, offered for sale, traded, given away or acquired until January 1, 1996.

4 §4203. Other laws applicable

- 6 **1. Generally.** All other laws applicable to dogs specifically and to pet animals and animals are applicable to 8 canine hybrids, except as modified by this chapter, including, without limitation, chapter 721.
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2. Rabies vaccine. The owner of a canine hybrid must sign 12 an affidavit in the presence of the veterinarian administering a rabies vaccine to that canine hybrid that affirms that the owner 14 knows that the use of canine-approved rabies vaccines on canine hybrids is experimental and acknowledges that neither the veterinarian administering the vaccine nor the manufacturer of 16 the vaccine is liable if the canine hybrid contracts rabies. The commissioner shall establish the form and content of this 18 affidavit by rules adopted under Title 5, chapter 375. If the commissioner issues a written determination that the rabies 20 vaccine is proven effective when administered to canine hybrids, 22 the signing of the affidavit is no longer required. As long as the affidavit is required, a copy must be filed with the municipal clerk issuing the dog license for the canine hybrid. 24

26 **§4204. Violation**

28 <u>Any person who violates this chapter commits a civil violation for which a forfeiture not to exceed \$100, plus costs,</u>
30 <u>may be adjudged.</u>

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STATEMENT OF FACT

This bill prohibits the sale, breeding or possession of 36 canine hybrids, including wolf dogs and coydogs. It grandfathers ownership of those canine hybrids already in the State and the 38 sale of canine hybrid offspring of a canine already pregnant on the effective date of the bill. An owner of a grandfathered hybrid must sign an affidavit 40 canine acknowledging the experimental nature of the use of the canine rabies vaccine on 42 canine hybrids and must file the affidavit with the municipal clerk upon obtaining a dog license. All other laws applicable to 44 dogs are applicable to those canine hybrids that are in the State.