

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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119th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1999

Legislative Document

No. 1662

S.P. 582

In Senate, March 4, 1999

An Act to Protect the Public's Health through State-funded Rabies Testing.

Reference to the Committee on Health and Human Services suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joy J. O'Brien".

JOY J. O'BRIEN
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator KILKELLY of Lincoln.
Cosponsored by Representative DUNLAP of Old Town and
Senator NUTTING of Androscoggin, Representatives: BRUNO of Raymond, CROSS of
Dover-Foxcroft, KNEELAND of Easton, MAYO of Bath, SAVAGE of Buxton, TRACY of
Rome, TRUE of Fryeburg.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 22 MRSA §1313, sub-§3,** as enacted by PL 1993, c. 468,
4 §23, is amended to read:

6 **3. Costs associated with transportation, quarantine,**
7 **testing and euthanasia.** ~~The Department of Inland Fisheries and~~
8 ~~Wildlife shall pay all~~ **All costs for associated with rabid**
9 **animals, including the transportation, quarantine, euthanasia and**
10 **testing of an undomesticated animal suspected of having rabies,**
11 **must be paid through a yearly appropriation from the State's**
12 **General Fund to an account maintained by the Health and**
13 **Environmental Testing Laboratory within the Department of Human**
14 **Services, Bureau of Health.** ~~The owner of a domesticated animal~~
15 ~~suspected of having rabies shall pay all costs for~~
16 ~~transportation, quarantine, euthanasia and testing of the~~
17 ~~animal. If a domesticated animal is a stray or the owner is~~
18 ~~unknown, the municipality in which the animal was apprehended is~~
19 ~~responsible for transportation, quarantine, euthanasia and~~
20 ~~testing costs.~~

22 **SUMMARY**

24 This bill requires all rabies testing to be funded through a
26 yearly appropriation from the State's General Fund to the Health
27 and Environmental Testing Laboratory within the Department of
28 Human Services, Bureau of Health. Current state law requires all
29 laboratory costs, including transportation, quarantine,
30 euthanasia and testing of undomesticated animals to be paid by
31 the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife and all
32 laboratory costs relating to a domesticated animal to be paid by
the owner of that animal.