

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 121st MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2003

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Legislative Document

No. 297

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H.P. 240

House of Representatives, January 28, 2003

### **An Act to Provide for Proper Identification of Stray Cats by Animal Shelters**

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

*Millicent M. MacFarland*  
MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND  
Clerk

Presented by Representative McKEE of Wayne.  
Cosponsored by Senator BRYANT of Oxford and  
Representatives: FLETCHER of Winslow, PINEAU of Jay, SMITH of Monmouth.

2  
3 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:**

4 **Sec. 1. 7 MRSA §3907, sub-§9-A, ¶¶A and C,** as enacted by PL  
2001, c. 363, §1, are amended to read:

6 A. A registered microchip ~~used--in--conjunction--with--a~~  
7 ~~visible-collar-and-tag,--with-a-faceted,--reflective-ear-stud~~  
8 ~~or-a-tipped-or-notched-ear;~~

10 C. A collar and tag providing the name and address of the  
11 animal shelter or veterinary facility that issued the tag.

12 **Sec. 2. 7 MRSA §3919-A, first ¶,** as enacted by PL 2001, c. 363,  
14 §3, is amended to read:

16 An animal shelter to which a cat is taken may accept the cat  
17 unless the shelter is in quarantine. An animal shelter accepting  
18 a cat shall scan the cat for microchip identification using a  
19 universal scanner and shall comply with the provisions of this  
20 section.

22 **SUMMARY**

24 The bill deletes the current requirement for microchip  
26 identification of a stray cat accepted at an animal shelter only  
27 when the cat is also wearing a collar or has a notched or studded  
28 ear. Microchip scanning is now readily available and affordable  
29 technology and would under this provision be required of all  
30 shelters accepting stray cats.