

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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2008

L.D. 967

DATE: 5/19/05

(Filing No. H-430)

AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY

Minority

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STATE OF MAINE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 122ND LEGISLATURE FIRST SPECIAL SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 677, L.D. 967, Bill, "An Act To Amend the Laws Governing Dogs at Large"

Amend the bill in section 2 in that part designated "§1311-A." by striking out all of subsection 2 (page 1, lines 33 to 50 in L.D.) and inserting in its place the following:

'2. Quarantine for dogs without proof of rabies vaccination. An animal control officer shall ascertain the status of a dog's vaccination against rabies upon receiving a report that the dog has bitten a person or a domesticated animal.

If an owner or keeper does not provide a valid certificate of rabies vaccination for a dog within 24 hours of a request for such certification by an animal control officer, the animal control officer shall make a determination as to where the dog must be kept during the quarantine period established in rules adopted pursuant to section 1313. The animal control officer may place the dog in a licensed boarding kennel, animal shelter or veterinary clinic for observation during the quarantine period. The owner of the dog is responsible for all expenses incurred while the animal is under quarantine.'

Further amend the bill by inserting after section 2 the following:

'Sec. 3. 22 MRSA §1313-B, sub-§1, as enacted by PL 1997, c. 704, §12, is amended to read:

1. Violation. A person who violates a rule established under this chapter commits a civil violation for which a

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 677, L.D. 967

2 forfeiture fine of not less than \$100 ~~\$500~~ nor more than \$500
3 \$1,000 may be adjudged for each offense. In addition, the court
4 may include an order of restitution as part of the sentencing for
5 costs including removing, controlling and confining the animal.'

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SUMMARY

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This amendment is the minority report of the Joint Standing
Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry. It allows
12 an animal control officer to determine the place of quarantine
13 for a dog that has bitten a person or domesticated animal. It
14 increases the fine for failure to abide by quarantine provisions
15 and other rules adopted to control rabies.

16

FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED
(See attached)



122nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 967

LR 1349(02)

An Act To Amend the Laws Governing Dogs at Large

Fiscal Note for Bill as Amended by Committee Amendment "A"
Committee: Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry

Fiscal Note Required: Yes

Minority Report

Fiscal Note

Current Cost - State Mandate
Minor revenue increase - General Fund

State Mandate

New or Expanded Activity

Requiring that municipal animal control officers must ascertain the rabies vaccination status of certain dogs represents a state mandate; the costs of this process are likely to be relatively insignificant.

Unit Affected

Municipality

Costs

Insignificant

Correctional and Judicial Impact Statements:

Increases General Fund fine revenue by minor amounts.