

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 123rd MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2007

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Legislative Document

No. 680

S.P. 217

February 9, 2007

### **An Act To Increase Funding for the Spaying and Neutering of Companion Animals**

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

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Joy J. O'Brien".

JOY J. O'BRIEN  
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator NUTTING of Androscoggin.  
Cosponsored by Representative PIOTTI of Unity and  
Representative: PIEH of Bremen.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 7 MRSA §714, sub-§2**, as repealed and replaced by PL 2001, c. 422, §2,  
3 is amended to read:

4 **2. Fees.** The commissioner shall deposit ~~1/2~~ 1/4 of the fees collected pursuant to  
5 subsection 1 in the General Fund, 1/4 of the fees collected in the Companion Animal  
6 Sterilization Fund established under section 3910-B and 1/2 of the fees collected in the  
7 Animal Welfare Fund established under section 3906-B.

8 **Sec. 2. 7 MRSA §3910-B, sub-§1**, as amended by PL 2005, c. 510, §6, is further  
9 amended to read:

10 **1. Establishment.** There is established the Companion Animal Sterilization Fund,  
11 an interest-bearing account, referred to in this section as "the fund." The fund receives  
12 money deposited by the Treasurer of State pursuant to Title 36, section 5284-A, revenues  
13 generated in accordance with this section, all revenue from the surcharges collected under  
14 section 3933, subsection 4, money transferred from the Animal Welfare Fund in  
15 accordance with section 3906-B, subsection 2, money from registration of pet food and  
16 commercial feed pursuant to section 714, subsection 2 and any money contributed  
17 voluntarily to the fund. All money deposited in the fund and the earnings on that money  
18 remain in the fund to be used for the spaying or neutering of companion animals owned  
19 by persons meeting income limit standards and for the necessary administrative and  
20 personnel costs associated with the management of the fund and may not be deposited in  
21 the General Fund or any other fund except as specifically provided by law.

22 **SUMMARY**

23 This bill changes the way the fees collected from the registration of pet food and  
24 commercial feed is distributed. Currently, 1/2 of the fees collected go to the General  
25 Fund and the other 1/2 goes to the Animal Welfare Fund. This bill directs the  
26 Commissioner of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources to deposit 1/4 of the fees  
27 collected in the General Fund, 1/4 of the fees collected in the Companion Animal  
28 Sterilization Fund and 1/2 of the fees collected in the Animal Welfare Fund. This bill  
29 also adds language indicating that funds deposited in the Companion Animal Sterilization  
30 Fund also come from funds from the registration of pet food and commercial feed  
31 pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 7, section 714, subsection 2.