

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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124th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2009

Legislative Document

No. 879

S.P. 327

In Senate, March 5, 2009

**An Act To Allow Licensed Kennel Owners To Vaccinate Their Own
Dogs**

Reference to the Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry 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 JACKSON of Aroostook.
Cosponsored by Representative PRATT of Eddington and
Representatives: CRAY of Palmyra, GIFFORD of Lincoln, SMITH of Monmouth.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 7 MRSA §1808-A**, as amended by PL 2003, c. 386, §15, is further
3 amended to read:

4 **§1808-A. Direct purchase of rabies vaccine**

5 A veterinarian licensed in this State may sell rabies vaccine to a licensed kennel
6 owner or a person who owns cattle, sheep, goats or cervids as defined in section 1333. A
7 veterinarian who sells rabies vaccine in accordance with this section is not, as a result of
8 selling the vaccine, liable for claims arising from the administration of the vaccine by the
9 purchaser.

10 An animal vaccinated against rabies by a person who is not a licensed veterinarian or
11 under the direct supervision of a licensed veterinarian or who is not a licensed kennel
12 owner under section 3923-C, subsection 7 may not be certified as vaccinated against
13 rabies and must be treated as an unvaccinated animal under Title 22, chapter 251,
14 subchapter 5 and rules adopted pursuant to that chapter.

15 **Sec. 2. 7 MRSA §3916, sub-§2**, as amended by PL 2005, c. 422, §4, is further
16 amended to read:

17 **2. Certificate.** A licensed veterinarian who vaccinates or supervises the vaccination
18 of a cat or dog shall issue to the owner or keeper or to a licensed kennel owner who
19 vaccinates the owner's own animals under section 3923-C, subsection 7 a certificate of
20 rabies vaccination approved by the State and shall indicate on the certificate the date by
21 which a booster vaccination is required pursuant to subsection 1 or 1-A.

22 **Sec. 3. 7 MRSA §3923-C, sub-§7** is enacted to read:

23 **7. Vaccinations.** A kennel owner licensed under this section may vaccinate dogs
24 owned by the kennel owner under the supervision of a licensed veterinarian as long as the
25 veterinarian can attest to the training given and the ability of the kennel owner to proceed
26 with vaccinations, as established by rule by the department. A copy of the certificate
27 issued under section 3916, subsection 2 by the supervising veterinarian must be kept on
28 the premises for inspection. Rules adopted pursuant to this subsection are routine
29 technical rules as defined in Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A.

30

SUMMARY

31 This bill authorizes a kennel owner to purchase vaccinations from a licensed
32 veterinarian and to vaccinate the kennel owner's own dogs under the supervision of a
33 licensed veterinarian.