

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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125th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2011

Legislative Document

No. 467

H.P. 360

House of Representatives, February 10, 2011

An Act To Simplify Dog Licensure By Establishing a 3-year License

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

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Heather J.R. Priest".

HEATHER J.R. PRIEST
Clerk

Presented by Representative FLOOD of Winthrop.
Cosponsored by Senator THIBODEAU of Waldo and
Representatives: CRAY of Palmyra, GIFFORD of Lincoln, TIMBERLAKE of Turner,
WINSOR of Norway, Senators: SAVIELLO of Franklin, SHERMAN of Aroostook.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 7 MRSA §3922, sub-§1**, as amended by PL 2003, c. 405, §§10 to 12, is
3 further amended to read:

4 **1. License; January 1st.** ~~Each~~ Except as provided in subsection 2-A, each owner or
5 keeper of a dog at the age of 6 months or more, on or before January 1st of each year,
6 shall obtain a license:

- 7 A. From the clerk of the municipality where the dog is kept;
- 8 B. From the dog recorder in the unorganized territory where the dog is kept or, in
9 the absence of a duly authorized dog recorder, from a dog recorder in the nearest
10 municipality or unorganized territory in the same county where the dog is kept;
- 11 C. From a veterinary licensing agent in accordance with section 3923-F; or
- 12 D. From the department using the Internet in accordance with section 3923-G.

13 **Sec. 2. 7 MRSA §3922, sub-§2-A** is enacted to read:

14 **2-A. Three-year license.** An owner or a keeper of a dog 6 months of age or older
15 that has been vaccinated with a 3-year rabies vaccine during the calendar year prior to the
16 year for which licensure is sought may obtain a 3-year license. Under this subsection, the
17 owner or keeper of a dog may obtain a 3-year license:

- 18 A. From the clerk of the municipality where the dog is kept;
- 19 B. From the dog recorder in the unorganized territory where the dog is kept or, in the
20 absence of a duly authorized dog recorder, from a dog recorder in the nearest
21 municipality or unorganized territory in the same county where the dog is kept;
- 22 C. From a veterinary licensing agent in accordance with section 3923-F; or
- 23 D. From the department using the Internet in accordance with section 3923-G.

24 **Sec. 3. 7 MRSA §3923-A, sub-§1**, as amended by PL 2007, c. 439, §15, is
25 further amended to read:

26 **1. Dogs capable of producing young.** A dog owner or keeper shall pay a fee of
27 \$11, or \$33 for a 3-year license as provided in section 3922, subsection 2-A, to the
28 municipal clerk for each dog 6 months of age or older and capable of producing young.
29 A dog is considered capable of producing young unless certification under subsection 2 is
30 provided.

31 The municipal clerk shall retain a \$1 recording fee and pay the ~~remaining \$10~~ remainder
32 of the fee to the department for deposit in the Animal Welfare Fund.

33 **Sec. 4. 7 MRSA §3923-A, sub-§2**, as amended by PL 2003, c. 405, §13, is
34 further amended to read:

35 **2. Dogs incapable of producing young.** A dog owner shall pay a fee of \$6, or \$18
36 for a 3-year license as provided in section 3922, subsection 2-A, to the municipal clerk or

1 to a veterinary licensing agent for each dog 6 months of age or older and incapable of
2 producing young. A dog is considered incapable of producing young when the owner
3 provides the following:

4 A. A written certificate issued by a veterinarian stating that the veterinarian has
5 neutered the dog;

6 B. A written certificate issued by a veterinarian stating that the veterinarian has
7 examined the dog and determined that the dog is incapable of producing young; or

8 C. A previous license stating that the dog is incapable of producing young.

9 The municipal clerk shall retain a \$1 recording fee, deposit \$2 in the municipality's
10 animal welfare account established in accordance with section 3945 and pay the
11 ~~remaining \$3~~ remainder of the fee to the department for deposit in the Animal Welfare
12 Fund.

13 SUMMARY

14 This bill provides an option for an owner or keeper of a dog to obtain a 3-year license
15 if the dog has received a 3-year rabies vaccine. The bill also establishes a 3-year license
16 fee of \$33 for dogs capable of producing young and \$18 for dogs incapable of producing
17 young.