

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**LAWS**  
**OF THE**  
**STATE OF MAINE**

**AS PASSED BY THE**

**ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE**

**FIRST REGULAR SESSION**  
**December 5, 2012 to July 10, 2013**

**THE GENERAL EFFECTIVE DATE FOR**  
**FIRST REGULAR SESSION**  
**NON-EMERGENCY LAWS IS**  
**OCTOBER 9, 2013**

**PUBLISHED BY THE REVISOR OF STATUTES**  
**IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE MAINE REVISED STATUTES ANNOTATED,**  
**TITLE 3, SECTION 163-A, SUBSECTION 4.**

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**Augusta, Maine**  
**2013**

**CHAPTER 114**  
**H.P. 256 - L.D. 381**

**An Act To Allow a Court To  
Order a Person Who Violates a  
Municipal Ordinance To  
Perform Community Service  
Work**

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

**Sec. 1.** 14 MRSA §5605 is enacted to read:

**§5605. Community service work for a person who violates a municipal ordinance**

**1. Community service work.** The court may order a person adjudicated as having violated a municipal ordinance to perform a specific number of hours of community service work for the benefit of the State, a county, a municipality, a school administrative district or other public entity, a charitable institution or other entity approved by the court if the municipality whose ordinance is violated has a community service work program that provides oversight of the community service order and ensures meaningful compliance with the community service requirements.

**2. Failure to perform work.** An adjudicated person who is ordered to perform community service work pursuant to subsection 1 and who fails to complete the work within the time specified by the court must be returned to the court for further disposition.

**3. Supervision.** Neither the judicial branch nor the Department of Corrections is responsible for supervision of community service work pursuant to this section.

See title page for effective date.

**CHAPTER 115**  
**H.P. 334 - L.D. 484**

**An Act To Revise the Animal  
Welfare Laws**

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

**Sec. 1.** 7 MRSA §3907, sub-§1-A, as amended by PL 1993, c. 657, §1, is repealed.

**Sec. 2.** 7 MRSA §3907, sub-§1-B is enacted to read:

**1-B. Abandoned animal.** "Abandoned animal" means an animal that has been deserted by its owner or keeper, excluding animals that are part of a population control effort.

**Sec. 3.** 7 MRSA §3907, sub-§12-F is enacted to read:

**12-F. Dog licensing agent.** "Dog licensing agent" means a veterinarian office or animal shelter that licenses dogs for a municipality.

**Sec. 4.** 7 MRSA §3907, sub-§15-C is enacted to read:

**15-C. Humanely trap.** "Humanely trap" means to trap an animal using traps and trapping methods that are designed to avoid injury to animals to the greatest extent practicable for animal control or animal rescue purposes.

**Sec. 5.** 7 MRSA §3907, sub-§23-B is enacted to read:

**23-B. Population control effort.** "Population control effort" means the activities, programs and projects aimed at reducing the number of cats and dogs without homes, including, but not limited to, the trapping, neutering and vaccinating of feral cats, the trapping of cats for impoundment at an animal shelter and spaying or neutering services for abandoned animals and stray dogs and cats.

**Sec. 6.** 7 MRSA §3907, sub-§25-B is enacted to read:

**25-B. Small animal.** "Small animal" means a bird, reptile or amphibian or a small mammal, other than a cat or dog, commonly kept as a household pet and that is an unrestricted species designated by the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife in rules adopted pursuant to Title 12, chapter 915.

**Sec. 7.** 7 MRSA §3919, as enacted by PL 2001, c. 363, §3, is amended to read:

**§3919. Seizure of stray cats and small animals**

**1. Definition.** For the purposes of this chapter, a "stray cat" means a cat on the premises of a person other than the owner of the cat, without the consent of the owner or occupant of the premises, on a public street or on other public property, except under the physical control of the owner.

**2. Seizure by animal control officer.** An animal control officer or person acting in that capacity may seize or humanely trap a stray cat or small animal and deliver it to an animal shelter as provided for in section 3919-A or section 3919-E or to the owner, if the owner is known. If ownership can not be established, such a cat or small animal may be handled as a homeless cat or small animal for the purpose of acceptance and disposition by an animal shelter.

**3. Person finding stray cat.** A person finding a stray cat or small animal and not knowing the owner or residence of the cat or small animal may take that cat or small animal to the animal shelter designated by