

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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## PART 8

## DOGS

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## CHAPTER 701

## GENERAL PROVISIONS

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**§ 3401. Lists of all dogs; returns**

Assessors of taxes shall include in their inventories lists of all dogs 4 months old or over owned or kept by any inhabitants on the first day of April, setting the number and sex thereof opposite the names of their respective owners or keepers, and shall make returns to the clerks of their respective municipalities and to the Commissioner of Agriculture or his authorized agent of such lists on or before the first day of June following.

The commissioner or his authorized agent shall, on or before the first day of September of each year, report to the Treasurer of State the number of dogs by sexes, the number of dogs reported killed, and the number of kennels found in each municipality, together with the amount due the State from each municipality for dog licenses.

The Treasurer of State shall notify the municipal officers of each municipality before October 1st of each year of the amount

due the State for dog licenses, on which amount he shall allow credit for all dogs reported killed, or assessed in error. Assessors of taxes shall make application to the commissioner or his authorized agent for such credits before August 1st.

If any municipality fails to remit to the Treasurer of State on or before October 15th of each year a sum of money equal to the licenses required by this chapter and chapters 703, 705, 711 and 713 and sections 3603 to 3605 on all dogs living on the first day of August preceding, such deficiency shall be collected in the manner provided by Title 5, section 133.

R.S.1954, c. 100, § 9; 1955, c. 135; 1961, c. 181, § 1; 1963, c. 146.

### § 3402. Copies of law posted

The commissioner shall seasonably forward to the clerks of the several municipalities copies of sections 3401, 3451, 3452, 3501 and 3701 to 3703, and each clerk shall annually, at least 20 days before the first day of April, post said copies in the usual places of posting notices of the annual municipal or town elections.

R.S.1954, c. 100, § 16.

### § 3403. Expenditure of surplus money

After the end of the fiscal year, any money in excess of receipts received by the State under section 3452 over the actual expenditures under this chapter and chapters 703, 705, 711 and 713 and sections 3603 to 3605 shall, if the Governor and Council deem it expedient, be paid to the several municipalities in proportion to the amount each has paid into the State Treasury under said chapters and sections.

R.S.1954, c. 100, § 21.

### § 3404. Stealing or killing dog

Whoever steals or confines and secretes any dog, or willfully or negligently injures or willfully or negligently kills any such dog, except as provided in sections 3603 and 3604 and unless such killing be justifiable in the protection of persons, property or game, shall be liable to the owner in a civil action for the full value of the dog.

R.S.1954, c. 100, § 23; 1957, c. 5.

**§ 3405. Record of sales**

All persons or kennels engaged in buying or selling dogs must keep record of from whom bought and to whom sold, which record shall be open to inspection by local police officers, humane agents, or the Commissioner of Agriculture or his agent.

R.S.1954, c. 100, § 27; 1955, c. 235.

**§ 3406. Dogs brought to veterinarian**

Any person finding a sick, stray, injured or abandoned dog may take the same to any licensed veterinarian, humane society or shelter within the State, who may accept the same, providing such shelter has been approved by the Commissioner of Agriculture or his agent. Any licensed veterinarian, humane society or shelter accepting such a sick, stray, injured or abandoned dog shall keep the same for a period of 2 weeks and shall be entitled to receive from the State the sum of \$1 per day for such period or part thereof as they shall provide food and shelter, provided such licensed veterinarian, humane society or shelter shall notify the clerk of their respective municipality within 24 hours after accepting such a dog, such notice to include a detailed description of the dog and the circumstances of its finding. Upon the expiration of said 2 weeks if the owner of the dog has not appeared to claim the same then said licensed veterinarian, humane society or shelter may give away, sell or otherwise humanely dispose of said dog. Proceeds from any sale shall be deducted from any claim for board made to the State. In the event the owner of such a dog shall appear and claim the dog while still in possession of said keeper, the owner may have and receive the same upon payment of all charges provided for in this section. All moneys paid by the State to such keepers shall be taken from the fund received from dog licenses.

R.S.1954, c. 140, § 18; 1955, c. 257; 1963, c. 180.