



# Senate

General Assembly

January Session, 2003

**File No. 637**

Senate Bill No. 49

*Senate, May 6, 2003*

The Committee on Finance, Revenue and Bonding reported through SEN. DAILY of the 33rd Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the bill ought to pass.

## **AN ACT CONCERNING DOG LICENSE FEES.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 22-338 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2003*):

3 (a) Each owner or keeper of a dog of the age of six months or older,  
4 except dogs kept under a kennel license as provided in section 22-342,  
5 shall cause such dog to be licensed in the town clerk's office in the  
6 town where such dog is kept, on or before June thirtieth, annually, or  
7 at such time as such dog becomes six months old, and annually  
8 thereafter, on or before June thirtieth. The owner or keeper shall pay to  
9 such town clerk for such license the sum of seven dollars for each  
10 neutered male or spayed female dog and the sum of [nine] twelve  
11 dollars for each unneutered male dog and each unspayed female dog,  
12 and one additional dollar in each case as the town clerk's fee for  
13 issuing a tag and license as provided in section 22-340. Two dollars  
14 from each license fee collected for a neutered or spayed dog shall be

15 deposited into the Animal Population Control Fund. If an owner or  
 16 keeper of a dog fails to procure a license as required by this section,  
 17 such owner or keeper shall pay the appropriate license fee specified in  
 18 this section, the town clerk's fee and a penalty of one dollar for each  
 19 month or fraction thereof the dog remains unlicensed.

20 (b) Any owner or keeper applying for a license for a dog under  
 21 subsection (a) of this section shall submit to the town clerk a rabies  
 22 certificate signed by a veterinarian, or a copy thereof, stating that such  
 23 dog has been vaccinated against rabies, the date of the vaccination and  
 24 the duration of the immunity provided by the vaccine. No license shall  
 25 be issued unless the certificate indicates that the immunity provided  
 26 by the vaccine is effective at the time of licensing.

27 (c) This section shall not apply to any dog which is imported into  
 28 this state for exhibition purposes and which does not remain in this  
 29 state for more than thirty days. Any person may import, from another  
 30 state, any licensed dog with collar, tag and rabies vaccination  
 31 certificate, and keep the same in this state for not more than thirty  
 32 days, without complying with the provisions of this section.

|  |                 |
|--|-----------------|
| This act shall take effect as follows: |                 |
| Section 1                              | October 1, 2003 |

**ENV**      *Joint Favorable C/R*      **FIN**  
**FIN**      *Joint Favorable*

The following fiscal impact statement and bill analysis are prepared for the benefit of members of the General Assembly, solely for the purpose of information, summarization, and explanation, and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either House thereof for any purpose:

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**OFA Fiscal Note**

**State Impact:**

| <b>Agency Affected</b>    | <b>Fund-Type</b>        | <b>FY 04 \$</b> | <b>FY 05 \$</b> |
|---------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Department of Agriculture | Dog Fund - Revenue Gain | 44,800-56,000   | 44,800-56,000   |

**Municipal Impact:**

| <b>Municipalities</b> | <b>Effect</b>                  | <b>FY 04 \$</b> | <b>FY 05 \$</b> |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| All Municipalities    | Revenue Gain<br>Town Dog Funds | 56,000-67,200   | 56,000-67,200   |

**Explanation**

Increasing the annual fee that a dog owner must pay for licensing an unneutered or unspayed dog by \$3 will increase revenue by approximately \$112,000 a year. There are approximately 37,500 unaltered dog licenses issued in Connecticut per year. Of this amount, a minimum of 40% (50% if a town does not perform a Department of Agriculture (DOAG) approved unlicensed dog survey) is deposited into the state Dog Fund to reimburse the costs associated with the DOAG Animal Control Unit. A small portion (10 cents per license) goes to the University of Connecticut for canine disease research and the remainder stays with town dog funds for municipal animal control costs. End of year balances in the state Dog Fund are returned on a pro-rata basis to the towns after DOAG program expenses and dog damage claims are paid.

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**OLR Bill Analysis**

SB 49

***AN ACT CONCERNING DOG LICENSE FEES***

**SUMMARY:**

The bill increases, from \$9 to \$12, the annual fee that an owner or keeper must pay for licensing each of his unneutered male or unspayed female dogs age six months or older. It also makes a technical change.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2003

**COMMITTEE ACTION**

Environment Committee

Joint Favorable Change of Reference

Yea 24 Nay 1

Finance, Revenue and Bonding Committee

Joint Favorable Report

Yea 35 Nay 8