



General Assembly

January Session, 2009

**Committee Bill No. 497**

LCO No. 4914

\* SB00497PD 041509 \*

Referred to Committee on Environment

Introduced by:  
(ENV)

**AN ACT CONCERNING THE REIMBURSEMENT OF MUNICIPAL  
ADVERTISING COSTS AND PET ADOPTIONS.**

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

1 Section 1. Section 22-332 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2009*):

3 (a) The Chief Animal Control Officer, any animal control officer or  
4 any municipal animal control officer shall be responsible for the  
5 enforcement of this chapter and shall make diligent search and inquiry  
6 for any violation of any of its provisions. Any such officer may take  
7 into custody (1) any dog found roaming in violation of the provisions  
8 of section 22-364, (2) any dog not having a tag or plate on a collar about  
9 its neck or on a harness on its body as provided by law or which is not  
10 confined or controlled in accordance with the provisions of any order  
11 or regulation relating to rabies issued by the commissioner in  
12 accordance with the provisions of this chapter, or (3) any dog found  
13 injured on any highway, neglected, abandoned or cruelly treated. The  
14 officer shall impound such dog at the pound serving the town where  
15 the dog is taken unless, in the opinion of a licensed veterinarian, the  
16 dog is so injured or diseased that it should be destroyed immediately,

17 in which case the municipal animal control officer of such town may  
18 cause the dog to be mercifully killed by a licensed veterinarian or  
19 disposed of as the State Veterinarian may direct. The municipal animal  
20 control officer shall immediately notify the owner or keeper of any dog  
21 so taken, if known, of its impoundment. Such officer shall immediately  
22 notify the owner or keeper of any other animal which is taken into  
23 custody, if such owner or keeper is known. If the owner or keeper of  
24 any such dog or other animal is unknown, the officer shall  
25 immediately tag or employ such other suitable means of identification  
26 of the dog or other animal as may be approved by the Chief Animal  
27 Control Officer and shall promptly cause a description of such dog or  
28 other animal to be published once in the lost and found column of a  
29 newspaper having a circulation in such town.

30 (b) If such dog or other animal is not claimed by and released to the  
31 owner within seven days after the date of publication, the municipal  
32 animal control officer, upon finding such dog or other animal to be in  
33 satisfactory health, may have a licensed veterinarian spay or neuter  
34 such dog and sell such dog or other animal to any person who satisfies  
35 such officer that he is purchasing it as a pet and that he can give it a  
36 good home and proper care. The municipal animal control officer may  
37 retain possession of such dog or other animal for such additional  
38 period of time as he may deem advisable in order to place such dog or  
39 other animal as a pet and may have a licensed veterinarian spay or  
40 neuter such dog. If, within such period, any dog or other animal is not  
41 claimed by and released to the owner or keeper or purchased as a pet,  
42 the officer shall cause such dog or other animal to be mercifully killed  
43 by a licensed veterinarian or disposed of as the State Veterinarian may  
44 direct. Any veterinarian who so destroys a dog shall be paid from the  
45 dog fund account. No person who so destroys a dog or other animal  
46 shall be held criminally or civilly liable therefor nor shall any licensed  
47 veterinarian who spays or neuters a dog pursuant to this section be  
48 held civilly liable, including, but not limited to, liability for  
49 reconstructive neutorial implantation surgery.

50 (c) The town treasurer or other fiscal officer shall pay from the dog

51 fund account the advertising expense incurred under the provisions of  
52 this section upon receipt of an itemized statement together with a copy  
53 of the advertisement as published. Any person who purchases [a] an  
54 unclaimed dog as a pet shall pay a fee of five dollars and for the  
55 advertising expense incurred by the municipality under this section,  
56 and shall procure a license and tag for such dog from the town clerk, in  
57 accordance with the provisions of section 22-338.

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|---|-----------------|--------|
| This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections: |                 |        |
| Section 1   | October 1, 2009 | 22-332 |

**ENV**      *Joint Favorable*

**PD**        *Joint Favorable*