



General Assembly

Amendment

January Session, 2009

LCO No. 6389

SB0049906389SD0

Offered by:

SEN. MEYER, 12th Dist.

REP. ROY, 119th Dist.

To: Subst. Senate Bill No. 499

File No. 467

Cal. No. 354

"AN ACT CONCERNING A PET LEMON LAW AND THE RELEASE OF RABIES VACCINATION RECORDS TO ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICERS."

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and substitute the
2 following in lieu thereof:

3 "Section 1. Section 22-344b of the general statutes is repealed and the
4 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2009*):

5 (a) A pet shop or kennel licensee shall, prior to offering a dog or cat
6 for sale and thereafter at intervals of fifteen days until such dog or cat
7 is sold, provide for examination of such dog or cat by a veterinarian
8 licensed under chapter 384. [The] Such licensee shall maintain a record
9 of the veterinary services rendered for each dog or cat offered for sale.

10 (b) If, (1) within [fifteen] twenty days of sale, any such dog or cat
11 becomes ill or dies of any illness which existed in such dog or cat at the
12 time of the sale, or (2) within six months of sale, any such dog or cat is

13 diagnosed with a congenital defect, such licensee shall, at the option of
14 the consumer, replace the dog or cat or refund in full the purchase
15 price of such dog or cat: [(1)] (A) In the case of illness or congenital
16 defect, upon return of the dog or cat to the pet shop or kennel and the
17 receipt of a certificate from a veterinarian licensed under chapter 384
18 and selected by the consumer, stating that the dog or cat is ill from a
19 condition which existed at the time of sale, or suffers from a congenital
20 defect and [(2)] (B) in the case of death, the receipt of a certificate from
21 a veterinarian licensed under [said] chapter 384 and selected by the
22 consumer, stating that the dog or cat died from a congenital defect or
23 from an illness which existed at the time of sale. Any costs for services
24 and medications provided by a licensed veterinarian incurred by the
25 consumer for such illness or congenital defect shall be reimbursed to
26 the consumer by such licensee in an amount not to exceed [two] five
27 hundred dollars. The presentation of such certificate shall be sufficient
28 proof to claim reimbursement or replacement and the return of such
29 deceased dog or cat to the pet shop shall not be required. No such
30 refund or replacement shall be made if such illness or death resulted
31 from maltreatment or neglect by a person other than the licensee, his
32 or her agent or employee.

33 (c) A licensee who violates any provision of this section shall forfeit
34 to the state a sum not to exceed five hundred dollars for each animal
35 which is the subject of the violation. The Attorney General, upon
36 complaint of the commissioner, may institute a civil action in the
37 superior court for the judicial district of Hartford to recover the
38 forfeiture specified in this section.

39 Sec. 2. Section 22-354 of the general statutes is repealed and the
40 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2009*):

41 (a) Any dog or cat imported into this state shall be accompanied by
42 a certificate of health issued no earlier than thirty days prior to the date
43 of importation by a licensed, graduate veterinarian stating that such
44 dog or cat is free from symptoms of any infectious, contagious or
45 communicable disease, and that such dog or cat, if three months of age

46 or older, is currently vaccinated for rabies by a licensed veterinarian. A
47 copy of such health certificate shall be forwarded promptly to the
48 commissioner from the livestock sanitary official of the state of origin.
49 Any dog or cat originating from a rabies quarantine area [must] shall
50 have permission of the State Veterinarian prior to importation into this
51 state. No person, firm or corporation shall import or export for the
52 purposes of sale or offering for sale any dog or cat under the age of
53 eight weeks unless such dog or cat is transported with its dam and no
54 person, firm or corporation shall sell within the state any dog or cat
55 under the age of eight weeks. Any person, firm or corporation
56 violating the provisions of this [section] subsection or bringing any
57 dog or cat into this state from an area under quarantine for rabies shall
58 be fined not more than one hundred dollars or imprisoned not more
59 than thirty days or both.

60 (b) Any dog or cat sold or offered for sale by a pet shop or kennel
61 licensee in this state shall be accompanied by a certificate of origin
62 identifying the name and address of the person, firm or corporation
63 that bred such dog or cat and of any person, firm or corporation that
64 sold such dog or cat to such pet shop or kennel licensee. Such
65 certificate shall be posted in a conspicuous manner not more than ten
66 feet from the location where such dog or cat is displayed for sale. A
67 copy of such certificate shall be provided to the purchaser of such dog
68 or cat at the time of sale and shall be filed by such licensee with the
69 Department of Agriculture not later than two days after such sale. No
70 pet shop or kennel licensee shall purchase a dog or cat for resale from a
71 breeder or other person, firm or corporation located outside of this
72 state that is not in possession of a current license issued by the United
73 States Department of Agriculture and any applicable state agency. Any
74 pet shop or kennel licensee violating the provisions of this subsection
75 shall be fined not more than one hundred dollars or imprisoned not
76 more than thirty days, or both, for each violation. Each day a pet shop
77 or kennel licensee is in violation of this subsection shall constitute a
78 separate offense.

79 Sec. 3. Subsection (a) of section 22-339b of the general statutes is

80 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
 81 *1, 2009*):

82 (a) Any owner or keeper of a dog or cat of the age of three months
 83 or older shall have such dog or cat vaccinated against rabies. Any
 84 animal vaccinated prior to one year of age or receiving a primary
 85 rabies vaccine at any age shall be considered protected for only one
 86 year and shall be given a booster vaccination one year after the initial
 87 vaccination and shall be vaccinated at least every three years
 88 thereafter. Those animals revaccinated after one year of age shall be
 89 given booster vaccinations at least every three years thereafter. Proof
 90 of vaccination shall be a certificate issued by a licensed veterinarian in
 91 accordance with subsection (a) of section 22-339c. A licensed
 92 veterinarian, upon request of the Chief Animal Control Officer, any
 93 animal control officer, municipal animal control officer or regional
 94 animal control officer, shall submit to such officer a copy of such
 95 certificate and any associated rabies vaccination records for such dog
 96 or cat that has bitten a person or another animal."

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2009</i>	22-344b
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2009</i>	22-354
Sec. 3	<i>July 1, 2009</i>	22-339b(a)