



General Assembly

Amendment

January Session, 2009

LCO No. 6866

SB0049906866HRO

Offered by:
REP. SAWYER, 55th Dist.

To: Subst. Senate Bill No. 499 File No. 467 Cal. No. 591

(As Amended by Senate Amendment Schedule "A")

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

1 Strike sections 1 and 2 in their entirety and substitute the following
2 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 Section 22-344b of the general statutes is repealed and the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 commercial kennel licensee shall, prior to offering
6 a dog or cat for sale and thereafter at intervals of fifteen days until such
7 dog or cat is sold, provide for examination of such dog or cat by a
8 veterinarian licensed under chapter 384. [The] Such licensee shall
9 maintain a record of the veterinary services rendered for each dog or
10 cat offered for sale.

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

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

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

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

43 (a) Any dog or cat imported into this state shall be accompanied by
44 a certificate of health issued no earlier than thirty days prior to the date
45 of importation by a licensed, graduate veterinarian stating that such

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

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

80 or commercial kennel licensee is in violation of this subsection shall
81 constitute a separate offense."