



General Assembly

**Amendment**

January Session, 2009

LCO No. 8200

\*SB0049908200HRO\*

Offered by:  
REP. CHAPIN, 67<sup>th</sup> Dist.

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

**"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 Section 22-344b of the general statutes is repealed and the  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 October 1, 2009*):

5      (a) A pet shop licensee shall, prior to offering a dog or cat for sale  
6      and thereafter at intervals of fifteen days until such dog or cat is sold,  
7      provide for examination of such dog or cat by a veterinarian licensed  
8      under chapter 384. [The] Such licensee shall maintain a record of the  
9      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  
12      the time of the sale] or (2) within six months of sale, any such dog or  
13      cat is diagnosed with a congenital defect, such licensee shall, at the

14 option of the consumer, replace the dog or cat or refund in full the  
15 purchase price of such dog or cat: [(1)] (A) In the case of illness or  
16 congenital defect, upon return of the dog or cat to the pet shop 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. Subsection (a) of section 22-339b of the general statutes is  
40 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*  
41 *October 1, 2009*):

42 (a) Any owner or keeper of a dog or cat of the age of three months  
43 or older shall have such dog or cat vaccinated against rabies. Any  
44 animal vaccinated prior to one year of age or receiving a primary  
45 rabies vaccine at any age shall be considered protected for only one  
46 year and shall be given a booster vaccination one year after the initial

47 vaccination and shall be vaccinated at least every three years  
 48 thereafter. Those animals revaccinated after one year of age shall be  
 49 given booster vaccinations at least every three years thereafter. Proof  
 50 of vaccination shall be a certificate issued by a licensed veterinarian in  
 51 accordance with subsection (a) of section 22-339c. A licensed  
 52 veterinarian, upon request of the Chief Animal Control Officer, any  
 53 animal control officer, municipal animal control officer or regional  
 54 animal control officer, shall submit to such officer a copy of such  
 55 certificate and any associated rabies vaccination records for such dog  
 56 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	October 1, 2009	22-344b
Sec. 2	October 1, 2009	22-339b(a)