



House of Representatives

General Assembly

File No. 374

January Session, 2011

Substitute House Bill No. 5008

House of Representatives, April 5, 2011

The Committee on Environment reported through REP. ROY of the 119th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING THE QUARANTINE OF BITING GUIDE DOGS.

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

1 Section 1. Subsection (c) of section 22-358 of the general statutes is
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*
3 *October 1, 2011*):

4 (c) If such officer finds that the complainant has been bitten or
5 attacked by such dog, cat or other animal when the complainant was
6 not upon the premises of the owner or keeper of such dog, cat or other
7 animal the officer shall quarantine such dog, cat or other animal in a
8 public pound or order the owner or keeper to quarantine it in a
9 veterinary hospital, kennel or other building or enclosure approved by
10 the commissioner for such purpose. When any dog, cat or other animal
11 has bitten a person on the premises of the owner or keeper of such
12 dog, cat or other animal, the Chief Animal Control Officer, any animal
13 control officer, any municipal animal control officer or regional animal
14 control officer may quarantine such dog, cat or other animal on the
15 premises of the owner or keeper of such dog, cat or other animal. The

16 commissioner, the Chief Animal Control Officer, any animal control
17 officer, any municipal animal control officer or any regional animal
18 control officer may make any order concerning the restraint or
19 disposal of any biting dog, cat or other animal as the commissioner or
20 such officer deems necessary. Notice of any such order shall be given
21 to the person bitten by such dog, cat or other animal within twenty-
22 four hours. The owner of such animal shall pay all fees as set forth in
23 section 22-333. On the fourteenth day of such quarantine the dog, cat
24 or other animal shall be examined by the commissioner or someone
25 designated by the commissioner to determine whether such quarantine
26 shall be continued or removed. Whenever any quarantine is ordered
27 under the provisions of this section, notice thereof shall be given to the
28 commissioner and to the person bitten or attacked by such dog, cat or
29 other animal within twenty-four hours. Any owner or keeper of such
30 dog, cat or other animal who fails to comply with such order shall be
31 fined not more than two hundred fifty dollars or imprisoned not more
32 than thirty days or both. If an owner or keeper fails to comply with a
33 quarantine or restraining order made pursuant to this subsection, the
34 Chief Animal Control Officer, any animal control officer, any
35 municipal animal control officer or regional animal control officer may
36 seize the dog, cat or other animal to insure such compliance and the
37 owner or keeper shall be responsible for any expenses resulting from
38 such seizure. Any person aggrieved by an order of any municipal
39 animal control officer, the Chief Animal Control Officer, any animal
40 control officer or any regional animal control officer may request a
41 hearing before the commissioner within fourteen days of the issuance
42 of such order. After such hearing, the commissioner may affirm,
43 modify or revoke such order as the commissioner deems proper. Any
44 dog owned by a police agency of the state or any of its political
45 subdivisions is exempt from the provisions of this subsection when
46 such dog is under the direct supervision, care and control of an
47 assigned police officer, [has been vaccinated annually] is currently
48 vaccinated and is subject to routine veterinary care. Any guide dog
49 owned or in the custody and control of a blind person or a person with
50 a mobility impairment is exempt from the provisions of this subsection

51 when such guide dog is under the direct supervision, care and control
52 of such person, is currently vaccinated and is subject to routine
53 veterinary care.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	October 1, 2011	22-358(c)

ENV *Joint Favorable Subst.*

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact: None

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

There is no fiscal impact to the state or municipalities as this bill relates only to the quarantine requirements of privately-owned guide dogs.

The Out Years

State Impact: None

Municipal Impact: None

OLR Bill Analysis

sHB 5008

AN ACT CONCERNING THE QUARANTINE OF BITING GUIDE DOGS.

SUMMARY:

By law, an animal control officer may quarantine or otherwise restrain or dispose of an animal that bites someone. If a person fails to comply with a quarantine or restraining order, the officer may seize the animal.

This bill exempts certain guide dogs from these provisions. To be exempt, the guide dog must be (1) owned by or in the custody and control of a blind person or person with mobility impairment; (2) under the direct supervision, care, and control of the person; (3) currently vaccinated; and (4) receiving routine veterinary care.

Under current law, police dogs are exempt from the requirements if they are (1) under the direct supervision, care, and control, of an assigned police officer; (2) receiving routine veterinary care; and (3) annually vaccinated. The bill changes the third criteria from annually to currently vaccinated.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2011

COMMITTEE ACTION

Environment Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 25 Nay 0 (03/21/2011)