



General Assembly

Substitute Bill No. 5446

February Session, 2012

* HB05446ENV 032212 *

**AN ACT CONCERNING THE PAYMENT PROCEDURE FOR THE
STERILIZATION AND VACCINATION OF CERTAIN DOGS AND CATS
AND PROVIDING FOR ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER TRAINING.**

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

1 Section 1. Subsection (a) of section 22-380f of the general statutes is
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*
3 *October 1, 2012*):

4 (a) No pound shall sell or give away any unspayed or unneutered
5 dog or cat to any person unless such pound receives forty-five dollars
6 from the person buying or adopting such dog or cat. Funds received
7 pursuant to this section shall be paid quarterly by the municipality
8 into the animal population control account established under section
9 22-380g, as amended by this act. At the time of receipt of such
10 payment, the pound shall [provide] complete a voucher, for the
11 purpose of [sterilization and vaccination] benefits, as provided in
12 section 22-380i, for the sterilization and vaccination of such dog or cat
13 and (1) provide the voucher to the person buying or adopting such dog
14 or cat, [. Such] or (2) retain such voucher and submit it to a
15 participating veterinarian for such sterilization and vaccination before
16 releasing the dog or cat to the person buying or adopting the dog or
17 cat. Any such voucher shall be on a form provided by the
18 commissioner and signed (A) by the eligible owner if the voucher is
19 provided to the person buying or adopting the dog or cat, or (B) by a

20 representative of the pound if the pound retains the voucher. Such
21 voucher shall become void after sixty days from the date of purchase
22 or adoption unless a participating veterinarian certifies that the dog or
23 cat is medically unfit for surgery. Such certification shall be on a form
24 provided by the commissioner and specify a date by which such dog
25 or cat may be fit for sterilization. If the surgery is performed more than
26 thirty days after such specified date, the voucher shall become void. In
27 the case of a dog or cat that has been previously sterilized or is
28 permanently medically unfit for sterilization, as determined by a
29 participating veterinarian, the voucher shall be void and the eligible
30 owner may apply to the commissioner for a refund in the amount of
31 forty-five dollars. If a dog or cat has pyometra and is not purchased or
32 adopted from a pound, a representative of the pound may complete a
33 voucher, for the purpose of benefits, as provided in section 22-380i,
34 and submit such voucher to a participating veterinarian for the
35 sterilization and vaccination of such dog or cat.

36 Sec. 2. Section 22-328 of the general statutes is repealed and the
37 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

38 (a) The commissioner is authorized to enforce the provisions of this
39 chapter and chapters 436 and 436a and the regulations adopted
40 thereunder in accordance with the provisions of such chapters and
41 chapter 54.

42 (b) The commissioner shall appoint, as provided by chapter 67: (1) A
43 Chief State Animal Control Officer; (2) an Assistant Chief State Animal
44 Control Officer, who shall perform all the duties of the Chief State
45 Animal Control Officer in such officer's absence or inability, or at such
46 officer's direction; and (3) not more than twelve state animal control
47 officers and as many regional animal control officers and assistants as
48 may be deemed necessary to insure, subject to the commissioner's
49 direction, the enforcement of the provisions of this chapter and
50 chapters 436 and 436a and the enforcement of regulations adopted by
51 the commissioner. The expenses incurred in the administration of this
52 chapter and chapters 436 and 436a shall be paid from dog funds in the

53 custody of the State Treasurer which have been received from the
54 several municipalities and from the commissioner for the same fiscal
55 year as the expenses are incurred.

56 (c) No person may begin serving in the position of state, regional or
57 municipal animal control officer on or after July 1, 2012, unless such
58 person (1) has completed a training program that meets the
59 requirements of subsection (d) of this section and received a certificate
60 of such completion from the commissioner pursuant to subsection (e)
61 of this section, or (2) submits an affidavit to the commissioner agreeing
62 to complete such a training program not later than one year after
63 beginning such position. The commissioner shall reimburse each
64 person completing such a training program for the costs of the
65 program, from the animal population control account established in
66 section 22-380g, as amended by this act.

67 (d) Not later than July 1, 2012, the commissioner shall prescribe the
68 standards and curriculum for a training program for persons
69 interested in serving in the position of animal control officer or
70 appointed on or after July 1, 2012, to such position. Such training
71 program shall consist of eighty or more hours of instruction. The
72 curriculum for such program shall include the following topics:

73 (1) Animal identification;

74 (2) State laws governing animal control and protection and animal
75 cruelty;

76 (3) Animal health and disease recognition, control and prevention;

77 (4) The humane care and treatment of animals;

78 (5) Standards for care and control of animals in an animal shelter;

79 (6) Standards and procedures for the transportation of animals;

80 (7) Principles and procedures for capturing and handling stray
81 domestic animals and wildlife, including principles and procedures to

82 be followed with respect to an instrument used specifically for
83 detering the bite of an animal;

84 (8) First aid for injured animals;

85 (9) Documentation of animal cruelty evidence and courtroom
86 procedures;

87 (10) Animal shelter operations and administration;

88 (11) Spaying and neutering, microchipping and adoption;

89 (12) Communications and public relations;

90 (13) Search warrants and affidavits;

91 (14) Civil liability for the animal control officer;

92 (15) Crisis intervention and officer safety; and

93 (16) Any other topics pertinent to animal control and animal shelter
94 personnel.

95 (e) Upon satisfactorily completing such training program, a person
96 shall submit evidence of such completion to the commissioner, and the
97 commissioner shall issue a certificate to such person. The certificate
98 shall contain the person's name, the name of the training program and
99 the date of completion. The commissioner may charge a reasonable fee
100 to cover the cost of issuance of such certificate. The commissioner shall
101 maintain records to document compliance with subsection (c) of this
102 section.

103 (f) Each animal control officer shall complete a minimum of six
104 hours of continuing education related to the duties of an animal
105 control officer in each calendar year. The commissioner shall adopt
106 regulations, in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54,
107 concerning the implementation of such continuing education
108 requirement.

109 Sec. 3. Subsection (e) of section 22-380g of the general statutes is
 110 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*
 111 *passage*):

112 (e) Any revenue collected pursuant to the provisions of sections 22-
 113 380f and 22-380l shall be deposited in the animal population control
 114 account. All money in the account shall be used by the commissioner
 115 exclusively for (1) the implementation and promotion of the animal
 116 population control program, [and for] (2) the costs associated with the
 117 administration of [the] such program, provided not more than two
 118 hundred twenty-five thousand dollars may be expended for
 119 administrative costs per year, and (3) reimbursement of persons
 120 completing a training program pursuant to subsections (c) and (d) of
 121 section 22-328, as amended by this act, for the costs of such program.

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| This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections: | | |
| Section 1 | <i>October 1, 2012</i> | 22-380f(a) |
| Sec. 2 | <i>from passage</i> | 22-328 |
| Sec. 3 | <i>from passage</i> | 22-380g(e) |

Statement of Legislative Commissioners:

In section 2(d)(10), "administrations" was changed to "administration" for accuracy, in the first sentence of section 2(e), "officer" was changed to "person" for statutory consistency, and section 3 was added for consistency with section 2(c).

ENV *Joint Favorable Subst.*