



General Assembly

January Session, 2013

Raised Bill No. 6488

LCO No. 3558



Referred to Committee on PUBLIC SAFETY AND SECURITY

Introduced by:
(PS)

AN ACT CONCERNING THE EVACUATION AND TEMPORARY SHELTERING OF CERTAIN ANIMALS DURING EMERGENCIES.

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

1 Section 1. Subsection (b) of section 28-5 of the general statutes is
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*
3 *October 1, 2013*):

4 (b) The commissioner shall direct the preparation of a
5 comprehensive plan and program for the civil preparedness of the
6 state and integrate and coordinate that plan and program to the fullest
7 extent possible with the civil preparedness plans of the federal
8 government and of other states. Such plan and program shall include a
9 description of resources and methods available in the event of an
10 emergency for the nonmilitary evacuation of pets and service animals
11 and the temporary sheltering of pets, service animals and animals
12 trained to assist first responders. When the plan and program has been
13 prepared, the commissioner shall present it to the Governor for his or
14 her approval. When the Governor approves the plan, all government
15 agencies, state or local, all civil preparedness forces in the state and all

16 public service companies, as defined in section 16-1, shall carry out the
17 duties and functions assigned by the plan and program as approved.
18 The plan and program may, from time to time, be amended or
19 modified in like manner. The commissioner shall coordinate the civil
20 preparedness activities of the towns and cities of the state to the end
21 that they shall be fully integrated with the state civil preparedness plan
22 and program.

23 Sec. 2. Subsections (a) and (b) of section 28-7 of the general statutes
24 are repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*
25 *October 1, 2013*):

26 (a) Each town or city of the state shall establish a local organization
27 for civil preparedness in accordance with the state civil preparedness
28 plan and program, provided any two or more towns or cities may,
29 with the approval of the commissioner, establish a joint organization
30 for civil preparedness. The authority of such local or joint organization
31 for civil preparedness shall not supersede that of any regularly
32 organized police or fire department. In order to be eligible for any state
33 or federal benefits under this chapter, not later than January 1, 2008,
34 and annually thereafter, each town or city of the state shall have a
35 current emergency plan of operations that has been approved by the
36 commissioner. The plan shall be submitted to the commissioner after it
37 has been approved by the local emergency management director and
38 the local chief executive. Such plan may be submitted with a notice
39 stating that the plan remains unchanged from the previous year's
40 version. The emergency plan of operations of every town or city
41 situated on the shoreline of the state shall contain provisions
42 addressing an emergency caused by any existing liquefied natural gas
43 terminal located on the Long Island Sound and every town or city
44 situated on the shoreline of the state shall submit such plan to the joint
45 standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of
46 matters relating to public safety, in accordance with the provisions of
47 section 11-4a, and the commissioner to obtain approval. The committee
48 shall hold a public hearing regarding such plan not later than thirty

49 days after receiving the plan. Not later than five days after the hearing,
50 the committee shall (1) hold a roll-call vote to approve or reject the
51 plan, and (2) forward the plan and a record of the committee's vote to
52 the General Assembly. Such emergency plan of operations shall not be
53 approved by the commissioner unless the commissioner determines
54 that the plan proposes strategies that address all the activities and
55 measures of civil preparedness identified in subdivision (4) of section
56 28-1. Each town or city of the state shall consider whether to [provide]
57 include in such plan provisions for the nonmilitary evacuation of
58 livestock, [and] horses, [in such plan] pets and service animals, and the
59 temporary sheltering of pets, service animals and animals trained to
60 assist first responders.

61 (b) Each local organization for civil preparedness shall consist of an
62 advisory council and an emergency management director appointed
63 by the chief executive officer. The advisory council shall contain
64 representatives of city or town agencies concerned with civil
65 preparedness and representatives of interests, including business,
66 labor, agriculture, veterans, women's groups, local and state animal
67 humane organizations and others, which are important to the civil
68 preparedness program in the particular community. The emergency
69 management director shall be responsible for the organization,
70 administration and operation of such local organization, subject to the
71 direction and control of the commissioner. The chief executive officer
72 may remove any local emergency management director for cause.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	October 1, 2013	28-5(b)
Sec. 2	October 1, 2013	28-7(a) and (b)

Statement of Purpose:

To require the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection to evaluate state and local resources and plans available for

the evacuation and sheltering of certain animals in the event of an emergency and to make such information more widely available.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]