

**Proposed Substitute
Bill No. 5367**

LCO No. 2635

**AN ACT CONCERNING THE DISPOSITION OF CERTAIN BITING AND
ATTACKING DOGS.**

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

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) Not later than July 1, 2018,
2 the Commissioner of Agriculture shall convene a working group to
3 develop recommendations for legislation to: (1) Reduce the number of
4 attacks by domestic animals that result in the death or serious injury of
5 another animal or person, and (2) mitigate the effects of disposal
6 orders for such attacking domestic animals on municipalities and the
7 state by (A) augmenting the authority of animal control officers in such
8 circumstances, (B) reducing municipal costs associated with the delay
9 in undertaking any disposal order for any such attacking domestic
10 animal, and (C) shortening the appeals process for any such disposal
11 order. Such working group shall consist of the Commissioner of
12 Agriculture, or the commissioner's designee, the State Veterinarian, a
13 representative of an organization that represents animal control
14 officers, a representative of the American Kennel Club, a
15 representative of an organization that represents dog bite victims, a
16 representative selected by the Connecticut Humane Society, a
17 representative selected by the American Society for the Prevention of
18 Cruelty to Animals, the chief elected officials of two municipalities,
19 one of whom shall represent a municipality with a population of one

20 hundred thousand persons or more and one of whom shall represent a
21 municipality with a population of ten thousand or fewer persons, a
22 representative of the insurance industry who shall have expertise with
23 personal liability coverages and products, a representative of the office
24 of the Attorney General, a representative of a municipal police
25 department and a representative of the Connecticut state police. In
26 undertaking its work, such working group shall hold at least one
27 public forum. The commissioner shall submit the recommendations of
28 such working group to the joint standing committee of the General
29 Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to the environment on
30 or before January 1, 2019.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	New section