



General Assembly

January Session, 2019

**Amendment**

LCO No. 10894



Offered by:  
REP. MUSHINSKY, 85<sup>th</sup> Dist.

To: Subst. House Bill No. 7297      File No. 619      Cal. No. 373

**"AN ACT CONCERNING QUARANTINE AND DISPOSAL ORDERS  
OF ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICERS."**

1      After the last section, add the following and renumber sections and  
2      internal references accordingly:

3      "Sec. 501. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2019*) (a) For the purposes of  
4      this section, "therapy animal" means any animal that is trained and  
5      being used to aid the emotional and physical health of patients in  
6      hospitals, nursing homes, retirement homes, schools, campuses,  
7      libraries or community centers.

8      (b) The Commissioner of Agriculture, in cooperation with other  
9      relevant state agencies and stakeholders shall identify, and develop as  
10     necessary, guidance for therapy dogs, their handlers and facilities  
11     using such dogs, including, but not limited to, assessment and  
12     training, risk management, animal welfare and best practices for such  
13     dogs and their dog handlers. Such guidance shall be made available on  
14     the Department of Agriculture's Internet web site and provided to  
15     municipalities that issue special tags for therapy dogs.

16 (c) The Commissioner of Agriculture may establish an identification  
17 tag program for therapy dogs."

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Sec. 501	<i>October 1, 2019</i>	New section