



General Assembly

January Session, 2023

Committee Bill No. 5575

LCO No. 3609



Referred to Committee on ENVIRONMENT

Introduced by:
(ENV)

AN ACT REQUIRING THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE TO REVISE MUNICIPAL ANIMAL SHELTER REGULATIONS.

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

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2023*) (a) Each municipal or
2 regional dog pound shall provide mechanical heating and cooling
3 systems of appropriate design and capacity to maintain an indoor
4 ambient temperature of between fifty-five and eighty degrees
5 Fahrenheit, unless other temperatures are medically required by a
6 Connecticut licensed veterinarian.

7 (b) (1) In any municipal or regional dog pound, dogs shall not share
8 the same primary enclosure, except dams or foster dams and their
9 puppies.

10 (2) In any municipal or regional dog pound, primary enclosures shall
11 be provided for each cat with space equal to or more than the space
12 requirements for cats pursuant to 9 CFR 3.6(a) and 9 CFR 3.6(b), as
13 amended from time to time.

14 (3) Whenever dogs or cats are kept in respective groups at any
15 municipal or regional dog pound, the following shall apply:

16 (A) Females in heat shall not be kept with males;

17 (B) Any dog or cat exhibiting a vicious or aggressive disposition shall
18 be kept separately; and

19 (C) Puppies or kittens four months of age or less shall not be kept
20 with adult dogs or cats other than their dams or foster dams.

21 (c) (1) Any dog or cat that has or is suspected of having a contagious
22 disease at any municipal or regional dog pound shall be isolated from
23 and have no nose-to-nose contact with healthy animals.

24 (2) Any dog or cat at a municipal or regional dog pound that has or
25 is suspected of having a contagious disease shall be examined, treated
26 and handled as directed by a Connecticut licensed veterinarian.

27 (d) The Commissioner of Agriculture may enforce the provisions of
28 this section, as necessary, to protect the health and well-being of any
29 animal at a municipal or regional dog pound.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	October 1, 2023	New section

Statement of Purpose:

To adhere to best practices relating to animal shelter operations by requiring municipal regulations to comport with state-mandated regulations for private shelters.

[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.]

Co-Sponsors: REP. BORER, 115th Dist.; REP. KLARIDES-DITRIA, 105th Dist.
REP. FISHBEIN, 90th Dist.

H.B. 5575