



General Assembly

January Session, 2025

**Committee Bill No. 6231**

LCO No. 5818



Referred to Committee on ENVIRONMENT

Introduced by:  
(ENV)

***AN ACT RESTRICTING THE EUTHANIZATION OF FERAL CATS AND  
REQUIRING THE INVOLVEMENT OF FERAL CAT ORGANIZATIONS  
FOR THE TRAPPING OF SUCH ANIMALS.***

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

1 Section 1. Section 22-339d of the general statutes is repealed and the  
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

3 (a) A municipality may adopt an ordinance requiring the registration,  
4 within one year of the adoption of such ordinance, of keepers of feral  
5 cats in residential or commercial areas. Such ordinance shall require that  
6 any such keeper shall register with the animal control officer for such  
7 municipality who shall provide information to the registrant regarding  
8 the proper care and management of feral cats. For purposes of this  
9 section, "feral cat" means a free-roaming domestic cat which is not  
10 owned and "keeper" means any person or organization, harboring,  
11 regularly feeding or having in his or its possession any feral cat. Refusal  
12 to permit any animal control officer to impound a feral cat shall be  
13 deemed evidence of keeping. Such ordinance shall require that such  
14 keepers shall provide for the vaccination of such cats against rabies and  
15 the sterilization of such cats. Such keeper shall be considered an eligible

16 owner for purposes of the animal population control program  
17 established under sections 22-380e to 22-380m, inclusive, provided such  
18 cats are adopted from a municipal pound.

19 (b) A municipality may adopt an ordinance providing that no person  
20 owning or keeping any cat shall permit such animal to (1) substantially  
21 damage property other than the property of the owner or keeper, or (2)  
22 cause an unsanitary [ ] or dangerous [or unreasonably offensive]  
23 condition. Violation of such provision shall be an infraction.

24 (c) Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter, (1) each  
25 animal control officer shall engage the assistance of an animal rescue or  
26 feral cat organization when undertaking efforts to control the feral cat  
27 population in any such municipality, and (2) no municipality, animal  
28 control officer or regional animal control officer shall euthanize a feral  
29 cat for any purpose other than such animal presenting a public health  
30 danger, such as a communicable disease, including, but not limited to  
31 rabies, or if such cat is injured to an extent that euthanasia is determined  
32 to be the only humane course of action by a veterinarian licensed in this  
33 state.

34 Sec. 2. Section 22-332d of the general statutes is repealed. (*Effective*  
35 *from passage*)

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	22-339d
Sec. 2	<i>from passage</i>	Repealer section

**Statement of Purpose:**

To restrict the use of euthanasia on feral cat populations and require the involvement of feral cat organizations in the trapping of feral cats by animal control officers.

*[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. LINEHAN, 103rd Dist.

H.B. 6231