



General Assembly

Amendment

February Session, 2024

LCO No. 5774



Offered by:

SEN. LOPES, 6th Dist.
SEN. HARDING, 30th Dist.
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To: Subst. House Bill No. 5223

File No. 660

Cal. No. 437

**"AN ACT CONCERNING MINOR REVISIONS TO AGRICULTURE
RELATED STATUTES."**

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and substitute the
2 following in lieu thereof:

3 "Section 1. Section 22-327 of the general statutes is repealed and the
4 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

5 As used in this chapter:

6 (1) "Animal" means any brute creature, including, but not limited to,
7 dogs, cats, monkeys, guinea pigs, hamsters, rabbits, birds and reptiles;

8 (2) "Chief Animal Control Officer", "Assistant Chief Animal Control
9 Officer" and "animal control officer" mean, respectively, the Chief State
10 Animal Control Officer, the Assistant Chief State Animal Control
11 Officer and a state animal control officer appointed under section 22-

12 328;

13 (3) "Commercial kennel" means a place maintained for boarding or
14 grooming dogs or cats, and includes, but is not limited to, any veterinary
15 hospital which boards or grooms dogs or cats for nonmedical purposes;

16 (4) "Commissioner" means the Commissioner of Agriculture;

17 (5) "Grooming facility" means any place, [other than a commercial
18 kennel, which] including any vehicle or trailer, that is maintained as a
19 business where dogs are groomed;

20 (6) "Keeper" means any person, other than the owner, harboring or
21 having in his possession any dog;

22 (7) "Kennel" means one pack or collection of dogs which are kept
23 under one ownership at a single location and are bred for show, sport
24 or sale;

25 (8) "Municipal animal control officer" means any such officer
26 appointed under the provisions of section 22-331;

27 (9) "Pet shop" means any place at which animals not born and raised
28 on the premises are kept for the purpose of sale to the public;

29 (10) "Poultry" has the same meaning as provided in section 22-326s;

30 [(11) "Regional animal control officer" and "assistant regional animal
31 control officer" means a regional Connecticut animal control officer and
32 an assistant regional Connecticut animal control officer appointed
33 under the provisions of section 22-331a;]

34 [(12)] (11) "Training facility" means any place [, other than a
35 commercial kennel or grooming facility, which] that is maintained as a
36 business where dogs are trained;

37 [(13)] (12) "Service animal" has the same meaning as provided in 28
38 CFR 35.104 and includes any animal in training to become a service
39 animal.

40 Sec. 2. Section 22-367 of the 2024 supplement to the general statutes
41 is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*
42 *passage*):

43 Any person owning, keeping or harboring a dog or cat or maintaining
44 a [breeding] local kennel or commercial kennel who violates any
45 provision of this chapter for the violation of which no other penalty is
46 provided, or any regulation legally made and published shall be fined
47 not less than two hundred fifty dollars or imprisoned not more than
48 thirty days or both. No commercial kennel shall board any dog or cat
49 unless the owner of the dog or cat presents a certificate of vaccination as
50 required by this chapter. The Chief Animal Control Officer, any animal
51 control officer and any municipal or regional control officer shall
52 diligently inquire after, and prosecute for, any violation of any provision
53 of this chapter.

54 Sec. 3. Subsection (a) of section 22-380f of the general statutes is
55 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*
56 *passage*):

57 (a) No pound shall sell or give away any unspayed or unneutered
58 dog or cat to any person unless such pound receives forty-five dollars
59 from the person buying or adopting such dog or cat. Funds received
60 pursuant to this section shall be paid quarterly by the municipality into
61 the animal population control account established under section 22-
62 380g. At the time of receipt of such payment, the pound shall complete
63 a voucher, for the purpose of benefits, as provided in section 22-380i, for
64 the sterilization and vaccination of such dog or cat and (1) provide the
65 voucher to the person buying or adopting such dog or cat, or (2) retain
66 such voucher and submit it to a participating veterinarian for such
67 sterilization and vaccination before releasing the dog or cat to the person
68 buying or adopting the dog or cat. Any such voucher shall be on a form
69 provided by the commissioner and signed (A) by the eligible owner if
70 the voucher is provided to the person buying or adopting the dog or cat,
71 or (B) by a representative of the pound if the pound retains the voucher.
72 Such voucher shall become void after sixty days from the date of

73 purchase or adoption unless a participating veterinarian certifies that
74 the dog or cat is medically unfit for surgery. Such certification shall be
75 on a form provided by the commissioner and specify a date by which
76 such dog or cat may be fit for sterilization. If the surgery is performed
77 more than thirty days after such specified date, the voucher shall
78 become void. In the case of a dog or cat that has been previously
79 sterilized or is permanently medically unfit for sterilization, as
80 determined by a participating veterinarian, the voucher shall be void
81 and the eligible owner may apply to the commissioner for a refund in
82 the amount of forty-five dollars. If a dog or cat [has pyometra and] is not
83 purchased or adopted from a pound, a representative of the pound may
84 complete a voucher, for the purpose of benefits, as provided in section
85 22-380i, and submit such voucher to a participating veterinarian for the
86 sterilization and vaccination of such dog or cat.

87 Sec. 4. Section 22-413 of the general statutes is repealed and the
88 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

89 (a) Any equine presented for public auction in this state shall have a
90 health certificate issued by a veterinarian licensed pursuant to the
91 provisions of chapter 384. [and cosigned by the State Veterinarian.] Such
92 examination shall be obtained within ten days prior to the auction and
93 shall be made at the expense of the owner.

94 (b) Any equine presented for public auction in this state shall have a
95 certificate indicating a negative reaction to a [coggins] Coggins test
96 which shall be obtained within sixty days prior to such auction.

97 (c) Any person violating any provision of this section shall be fined
98 not less than one hundred dollars or more than five hundred dollars for
99 each violation.

100 Sec. 5. Section 22-415a of the general statutes is repealed and the
101 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

102 As used in sections [22-415a] 22-410 to 22-415j, inclusive:

- 103 (1) "Commissioner" means the Commissioner of Agriculture;
- 104 (2) "Equine" means any member of the equine family which includes
105 horses, ponies, mules, asses, donkeys and zebras;
- 106 (3) "Equine infectious anemia" means a disease of equines caused by
107 an infectious virus which may be spread by blood-sucking insects,
108 unsterile surgical instruments and community use of equipment that
109 may produce cuts or abrasions and which may cause an equine to test
110 positive to an official test;
- 111 (4) "Licensed veterinarian" means a veterinarian who is licensed
112 pursuant to the provisions of chapter 384;
- 113 (5) "Official test" means a serological test for equine infectious anemia
114 that is (A) approved by the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service
115 of the United States Department of Agriculture, (B) conducted in a
116 laboratory approved by the Commissioner of Agriculture, and (C)
117 administered by a licensed veterinarian, state veterinarian, or full-time
118 employee with the state Department of Agriculture;
- 119 (6) "Reactor" means an equine whose blood serum reacts positively
120 to an official test for equine infectious anemia;
- 121 (7) "Freeze-brand" means a metal brand which produces a permanent
122 mark with a configuration of 16A that is three inches in height and is
123 applied to the left neck or shoulder area of any equine that is positive to
124 the equine infectious anemia test in such a manner that the brand is
125 obvious and not obscured by a mane;
- 126 (8) "Isolation" means no biological contact with another equine;
- 127 (9) "Coggins test" means an official test for equine infectious anemia.
- 128 Sec. 6. Section 22-90 of the general statutes is repealed and the
129 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):
- 130 The State Entomologist shall, to such extent as he or she deems

131 necessary or expedient, examine apiaries and quarantine such as are
132 diseased, harboring insects, mites or parasitic organisms adversely
133 affecting bees or species or subspecies of bees, which have been
134 determined by the State Entomologist to cause harm, directly or
135 indirectly, to the bee population, crops or other plants and treat or
136 destroy cases of the disease known as foul brood, insects, mites or
137 parasitic organisms adversely affecting bees or species or subspecies of
138 bees, which have been determined by the State Entomologist to cause
139 harm, directly or indirectly, to the bee population, crops or other plants.
140 The State Entomologist may appoint such inspectors as he or she deems
141 necessary or expedient, and he or she or any person whom he or she
142 appoints for that purpose shall have access at reasonable times to any
143 apiary or place where bees are kept or where honeycomb and appliances
144 are stored. [Any person appointed for such purpose shall possess all the
145 qualifications for an Agricultural Research Technician II employed by
146 the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station and have either five or
147 more years of beekeeping experience or a minimum of three years of
148 experience as a bee inspector at the federal or state level.] The State
149 Entomologist is authorized to make suitable regulations regarding
150 inspections and quarantine and to prescribe suitable forms for
151 permanent records, which shall be on file and open to public inspection,
152 and to make reasonable rules for the services of such inspectors, and
153 may pay a reasonable sum for such services. No person or corporation
154 shall remove bees under quarantine to another locality without
155 obtaining the written permission of an authorized inspector. No person
156 or transportation company shall receive for transportation any colony
157 or package of bees, unless such colony or package is accompanied by a
158 certificate of good health, furnished by an authorized inspector. No
159 person or transportation company shall deliver any colony or package
160 of bees brought from any other country, province, state or territory
161 unless accompanied by a certificate of health furnished by an authorized
162 inspector of such country, province, state or territory. Any person or
163 transportation company receiving a shipment of bees from without the
164 state, unaccompanied by such certificate, shall, before delivering such
165 shipment to its consignee, notify the State Entomologist and hold such

166 shipment until inspected by an authorized inspector. If contagious
167 diseases, insects, mites or parasitic organisms adversely affecting bees
168 or species or subspecies of bees, which have been determined by the
169 State Entomologist to cause harm, directly or indirectly, to the bee
170 population, crops or other plants are found therein, such shipment shall
171 be returned to the consignor or delivered to an authorized inspector of
172 this state for treatment or destruction, provided the requirements of this
173 section shall not apply to shipments of brood comb, with or without
174 bees, suspected of being diseased and consigned to the State
175 Entomologist, the agricultural experiment station or any authorized
176 apiary inspector of the state or to the Bureau of Entomology of the
177 United States or the United States Department of Agriculture, and
178 provided there shall be no destruction of any shipment of bees as herein
179 provided in the absence of reasonable notice to the consignee thereof.
180 No person shall resist or hinder the State Entomologist, or any inspector
181 whom he or she appoints, in the performance of the duties imposed by
182 this section. No person or corporation shall sell, to be removed to
183 another location, bees, brood comb, frames or hives that have been in
184 use, with or without combs, until they have been inspected by an
185 authorized inspector, who shall issue a certificate of health if they are
186 found free of contagious disease, insects, mites or parasitic organisms
187 adversely affecting bees or species or subspecies of bees, which have
188 been determined by the State Entomologist to cause harm, directly or
189 indirectly, to the bee population, crops or other plants. Any person
190 violating any provision of this section shall be fined not more than one
191 hundred dollars for a first violation, three hundred dollars for a second
192 violation and five hundred dollars for a third and any subsequent
193 violation.

194 Sec. 7. Subsection (a) of section 22-131 of the general statutes is
195 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*
196 *passage*):

197 (a) In accordance with section 4-9a, the Governor, [with the advice
198 and consent of either house of the General Assembly,] shall appoint
199 eight electors of the state, two of whom are actively engaged in the sale

200 and distribution of milk, two of whom are actively engaged in the
201 processing of milk, two of whom have no active or financial interest in
202 the production or sale of milk, and two of whom are actively engaged
203 in the production of milk, which eight electors, with the Commissioner
204 of Public Health, or the commissioner's designee, and the Commissioner
205 of Agriculture, shall constitute the Milk Regulation Board. The
206 Governor, for cause, after a public hearing, may remove any appointed
207 member of the board.

208 Sec. 8. Section 22-339b of the general statutes is repealed and the
209 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

210 (a) Any owner or keeper of a dog or cat [of the age of three months or
211 older] shall have such dog or cat vaccinated against rabies. Such
212 vaccination shall occur when such dog or cat is twelve weeks or more of
213 age but less than fourteen weeks of age, or at the age that the vaccine
214 manufacturer recommends, as approved by the United States
215 Department of Agriculture, provided such owner or keeper shall have
216 such dog or cat vaccinated if either such prescribed age has lapsed. Any
217 animal vaccinated prior to one year of age or receiving a primary rabies
218 vaccine at any age shall be considered protected for only one year and
219 shall be given a booster vaccination one year after the initial vaccination
220 and shall be vaccinated at least every three years thereafter. Those
221 animals revaccinated after one year of age shall be given booster
222 vaccinations at least every three years thereafter. Proof of vaccination
223 shall be a certificate issued by a licensed veterinarian in accordance with
224 subsection (a) of section 22-339c. A licensed veterinarian, upon request
225 of the Chief Animal Control Officer, any animal control officer,
226 municipal animal control officer or regional animal control officer shall
227 submit to such officer a copy of such certificate and any associated rabies
228 vaccination records for such dog or cat that has bitten a person or
229 another animal.

230 (b) The State Veterinarian or the Commissioner of Agriculture, or the
231 commissioner's designee, may grant an exemption from vaccination
232 against rabies for a dog or cat if a licensed veterinarian has examined

233 such animal and determined that a rabies vaccination would endanger
 234 the animal's life due to disease or other medical considerations. Such
 235 exemption may be granted for an individual animal only after the
 236 veterinarian has consulted with the State Veterinarian, the
 237 Commissioner of Agriculture, or the commissioner's designee, and
 238 completed and submitted to the department an application for
 239 exemption from rabies vaccination on a form approved by the
 240 Department of Agriculture. After approval of such exemption, the
 241 department shall issue a rabies vaccination exemption certificate, copies
 242 of which shall be provided to the veterinarian, the owner of the dog or
 243 cat exempted from rabies vaccination and the animal control officer of
 244 the municipality in which the owner of the dog or cat resides.
 245 Certification that a dog or cat is exempt from rabies vaccination shall be
 246 valid for one year, after which time the animal shall be vaccinated
 247 against rabies or the application for exemption shall be renewed.

248 (c) Any veterinarian aggrieved by a denial of a request for an
 249 exemption from rabies vaccination by the State Veterinarian, the
 250 Commissioner of Agriculture or the commissioner's designee may
 251 appeal such denial as provided in the Uniform Administrative
 252 Procedure Act, sections 4-166 to 4-189, inclusive.

253 (d) Any violation of this section shall be an infraction."

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	22-327
Sec. 2	<i>from passage</i>	22-367
Sec. 3	<i>from passage</i>	22-380f(a)
Sec. 4	<i>from passage</i>	22-413
Sec. 5	<i>from passage</i>	22-415a
Sec. 6	<i>from passage</i>	22-90
Sec. 7	<i>from passage</i>	22-131(a)
Sec. 8	<i>from passage</i>	22-339b