



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 Section 22-339d of the general statutes is repealed and the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

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

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

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

Sec. 2. Section 22-332d of the general statutes is repealed. (*Effective 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