



General Assembly

January Session, 2025

Raised Bill No. 6998

LCO No. 4846



Referred to Committee on PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

Introduced by:
(PD)

AN ACT REQUIRING THE LICENSING OF DOGS EVERY THREE YEARS.

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

1 Section 1. Section 22-338 of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

3 (a) Each owner or keeper of a dog of the age of six months or older,
4 except dogs kept under a kennel license as provided in section 22-342,
5 shall cause such dog to be licensed in the town clerk's office in the town
6 where such dog is kept, on or before June thirtieth, [annually] every
7 three years, or at such time as such dog becomes six months old, and
8 [annually] every three years thereafter, on or before June thirtieth. The
9 owner or keeper shall pay to such town clerk for such license the sum of
10 seven dollars for each neutered male or spayed female dog and the sum
11 of twelve dollars for each unneutered male dog and each unspayed
12 female dog, and one additional dollar in each case as the town clerk's
13 fee for issuing a tag and license as provided in section 22-340. Two
14 dollars from each license fee collected for a neutered or spayed dog shall
15 be deposited into the animal population control account, established

16 under section 22-380g. If an owner or keeper of a dog fails to procure a
17 license as required by this section, such owner or keeper shall pay the
18 appropriate license fee specified in this section, the town clerk's fee and
19 a penalty of one dollar for each month or fraction thereof the dog
20 remains unlicensed.

21 (b) [Any] Each owner or keeper [applying for a license for a dog
22 under subsection (a) of this section] of a dog, except for those owners or
23 keepers possessing a rabies vaccination exemption certificate, or a copy
24 thereof, issued pursuant to section 22-339b, shall annually submit to the
25 town clerk a rabies certificate signed by a licensed veterinarian, or a
26 copy thereof, stating that such dog has been vaccinated against rabies,
27 the date of the vaccination and the duration of the immunity provided
28 by the vaccine. No license shall be issued pursuant to subsection (a) of
29 this section unless the certificate indicates that the immunity provided
30 by the vaccine is effective at the time of licensing.

31 (c) Any owner or keeper [applying for a license for a dog pursuant to
32 subsection (a) of this section] of a dog that has been exempted from
33 vaccination against rabies pursuant to section 22-339b shall submit to
34 the town clerk a rabies vaccination exemption certificate issued by the
35 department, or a copy thereof, in lieu of a rabies certificate.

36 (d) This section shall not apply to any dog which is imported into this
37 state for exhibition purposes and which does not remain in this state for
38 more than thirty days. Any person may import, from another state, any
39 licensed dog with collar, tag and rabies vaccination certificate, and keep
40 the same in this state for not more than thirty days, without complying
41 with the provisions of this section.

42 Sec. 2. Subsection (b) of section 22-339a of the general statutes is
43 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1,*
44 *2025*):

45 (b) Any person acquiring an unlicensed dog from a dog pound shall
46 be issued a temporary license by the town clerk, or his agent deputized

47 pursuant to subsection (a) of this section, which shall expire thirty days
48 after the issuance thereof. Prior to the expiration of a temporary license,
49 the person holding the license shall apply for a license for the remainder
50 of the license [year] period, pay the appropriate license fee specified in
51 section 22-338, as amended by this act, and submit a certificate signed
52 by a veterinarian, or a copy thereof, stating (1) that the dog has been
53 vaccinated against rabies, (2) the date of the vaccination and (3) the
54 duration of the immunity provided by the vaccine. No license shall be
55 issued unless the certificate indicates that the immunity provided by the
56 vaccine is effective at the time of licensing.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
---	--	--

Section 1	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	22-338
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	22-339a(b)

Statement of Purpose:

To require each owner or keeper of a dog to obtain a license for such dog every three years rather than annually.

[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.]