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I N   S E N A T E

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Introduced by Sen. GRISANTI -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Agriculture -- committee discharged, bill amended, ordered reprinted as amended and recommitted to said committee -- committee discharged, bill amended, ordered reprinted as amended and recommitted to said committee -- reported favorably from said committee and committed to the Committee on Finance -- committee discharged, bill amended, ordered reprinted as amended and recommitted to said committee -- recommitted to the Committee on Agriculture in accordance with Senate Rule 6, sec. 8 -- committee discharged, bill amended, ordered reprinted as amended and recommitted to said committee -- reported favorably from said committee and committed to the Committee on Finance -- reported favorably from said committee, ordered to first and second report, ordered to a third reading, amended and ordered reprinted, retaining its place in the order of third reading

AN ACT to amend the agriculture and markets law, in relation to training, examination and certification of dog control officers

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, REPRESENTED IN SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

1     Section 1. The agriculture and markets law is amended by adding a new  
2     section 114-a to read as follows:  
3     S 114-A. TRAINING AND CERTIFICATION OF DOG CONTROL OFFICERS. 1. THE  
4     DEPARTMENT SHALL DEVELOP A TRAINING, EXAMINATION AND CERTIFICATION  
5     PROGRAM FOR DOG CONTROL OFFICERS, POLICE OFFICERS AND PEACE OFFICERS WHO  
6     DEAL WITH ANIMAL CONTROL OR ANIMAL ABUSE ISSUES.  
7     2. (A) EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN PARAGRAPH (B) OF THIS SUBDIVISION, ANY  
8     PERSON APPOINTED AS A DOG CONTROL OFFICER SHALL, WHERE REQUIRED BY THE  
9     GOVERNING BODY OF ANY POLITICAL SUBDIVISION, COMPLETE A COURSE OF TRAIN-  
10    ING APPROVED BY THE DEPARTMENT AND SHALL TAKE AND PASS AN EXAMINATION  
11    GIVEN BY THE DEPARTMENT. ANY PERSON CURRENTLY EMPLOYED AS A DOG CONTROL  
12    OFFICER SHALL, WHERE REQUIRED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF ANY POLITICAL

EXPLANATION--Matter in *ITALICS* (underscored) is new; matter in brackets  
[ ] is old law to be omitted.

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1 SUBDIVISION, COMPLETE THE TRAINING AND TAKE AND PASS THE EXAMINATION NO  
2 LATER THAN DECEMBER FIRST, TWO THOUSAND FOURTEEN. THE TRAINING AND  
3 CERTIFICATION SHALL BE AVAILABLE TO, BUT NOT REQUIRED FOR POLICE OFFI-  
4 CERS OR PEACE OFFICERS WHO DEAL WITH ANIMAL CONTROL OR ANIMAL ABUSE  
5 ISSUES.

6 (B) A VETERINARIAN LICENSED PURSUANT TO ARTICLE ONE HUNDRED  
7 THIRTY-FIVE OF THE EDUCATION LAW SHALL BE EXEMPT FROM THE TRAINING  
8 REQUIRED BY SUBDIVISION ONE OF THIS SECTION.

9 3. THE TRAINING PROGRAM REQUIRED BY THIS SECTION SHALL INCLUDE TRAIN-  
10 ING REGARDING:

11 (A) THE SCOPE OF THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE DOG CONTROL OFFICER;

12 (B) APPROPRIATE AND HUMANE HANDLING OF ANIMALS, INCLUDING TRANSPORTING  
13 ANIMALS SAFELY, GENERAL ANIMAL CONTROL AND PROPER METHODS FOR CAPTURING  
14 ANIMALS;

15 (C) THE LAWS AND RULES REGARDING DOG LICENSING, AND SEARCH AND  
16 SEIZURE;

17 (D) CRISIS INTERVENTION AND OFFICER SAFETY;

18 (E) IDENTIFICATION OF RESOURCES TO HOUSE ANIMALS WHILE A CRIMINAL CASE  
19 IS RESOLVED;

20 (F) REPORT WRITING AND COURTROOM TESTIMONY;

21 (G) DISPOSAL OF THE REMAINS OF DECEASED ANIMALS;

22 (H) IDENTIFICATION AND NOTIFICATION OF AN ANIMAL'S OWNER; AND

23 (I) OTHER RELEVANT PROVISIONS OF THIS CHAPTER.

24 4. GOVERNING BODIES OF POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS THAT REQUIRE TRAINING  
25 AND CERTIFICATION PURSUANT TO SUBDIVISION TWO OF THIS SECTION SHALL  
26 TERMINATE THE APPOINTMENT OF ANY DOG CONTROL OFFICER WHO FAILS TO OBTAIN  
27 SUCH TRAINING AND CERTIFICATION WITHIN THE REQUIRED PERIOD OF TIME.

28 5. THE DEPARTMENT SHALL: (A) DETERMINE THE FORMAT OF THE TRAINING AND  
29 CERTIFICATION EXAMINATIONS, INCLUDING AN INTERNET-BASED FORMAT IF THE  
30 DEPARTMENT DEEMS SUCH TO BE APPROPRIATE;

31 (B) ESTABLISH THE SCHEDULE FOR OFFERING TRAINING AND EXAMINATIONS; AND

32 (C) PROMULGATE RULES, REGULATIONS AND STANDARDS REGARDING THE APPLICA-  
33 TION OF THE TRAINING AND CERTIFICATION TOWARD RECERTIFICATION OR CONTIN-  
34 UING EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS.

35 S 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2014, provided that, effective  
36 immediately, the addition, amendment and/or repeal of any rule or regu-  
37 lation necessary for the implementation of this act on its effective  
38 date are authorized to be made on or before such effective date.