

6769--B

Cal. No. 505

I N   S E N A T E

March 7, 2014

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Introduced by Sens. LIBOUS, BOYLE, GRISANTI, KRUEGER, LAVALLE, MAZIARZ  
-- 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 --  
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 prohib-  
iting piercing and tattooing of companion animals

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

1     Section 1. The agriculture and markets law is amended by adding a new  
2     section 353-f to read as follows:  
3     S 353-F. COMPANION ANIMAL PIERCING AND TATTOOING PROHIBITED. 1. NO  
4     PERSON SHALL PIERCE OR CAUSE TO HAVE PIERCED A COMPANION ANIMAL UNLESS  
5     SUCH PIERCING PROVIDES A MEDICAL BENEFIT TO THE COMPANION ANIMAL. SUCH  
6     PIERCING SHALL BE PERFORMED BY A LICENSED VETERINARIAN OR UNDER THE  
7     SUPERVISION OF A LICENSED VETERINARIAN. NOTHING IN THIS SECTION SHALL BE  
8     CONSTRUED TO APPLY TO EAR TAGS ON RABBITS AND CAVIES.  
9     2. NO PERSON SHALL TATTOO OR CAUSE TO HAVE TATTOOED A COMPANION ANIMAL  
10    UNLESS SUCH TATTOO:  
11    (A) PROVIDES A MEDICAL BENEFIT TO THE COMPANION ANIMAL; OR  
12    (B) IS DONE FOR THE PURPOSE OF IDENTIFICATION OF THE COMPANION ANIMAL  
13    AND NOT FOR DESIGN PURPOSES, AND SUCH TATTOO INCLUDES ONLY SUCH NUMBERS  
14    AND/OR LETTERS ALLOTTED BY A CORPORATION THAT IN THE REGULAR COURSE OF  
15    ITS BUSINESS MAINTAINS AN ANIMAL TATTOO IDENTIFICATION REGISTRY.  
16    3. FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION, "TATTOO" SHALL MEAN A MARK ON THE  
17    BODY MADE WITH INDELIBLE INK OR PIGMENTS INJECTED BENEATH THE OUTER  
18    LAYER OF SKIN.  
19    4. TATTOOING FOR THE PURPOSES OF PROVIDING A MEDICAL BENEFIT TO THE  
20    COMPANION ANIMAL SHALL BE PERFORMED BY A LICENSED VETERINARIAN OR UNDER  
21    THE SUPERVISION OF A LICENSED VETERINARIAN.

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

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1       5. ANY PERSON FOUND IN VIOLATION OF THIS SECTION IS GUILTY OF A MISDE-  
2 MEANOR PUNISHABLE BY IMPRISONMENT FOR NOT MORE THAN ONE YEAR, OR A FINE  
3 OF NOT MORE THAN ONE THOUSAND DOLLARS, OR BY BOTH.  
4       S 2. This act shall take effect on the one hundred twentieth day after  
5 it shall have become a law.