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I N   A S S E M B L Y

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Introduced by M. of A. HOYT, BARRON, COOK, MAYERSOHN -- Multi-Sponsored by -- M. of A. BRENNAN, JEFFRIES, PHEFFER, SCHIMEL -- read once and referred to the Committee on Agriculture -- committee discharged, bill amended, ordered reprinted as amended and recommitted to said committee -- reported and referred to the Committee on Ways and Means -- committee discharged, bill amended, ordered reprinted as amended and recommitted to said committee -- reported from committee, advanced to a third reading, amended and ordered reprinted, retaining its place on 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 IS PROVIDED IN PARAGRAPH (B) OF THIS SUBDIVISION, ANY  
8     PERSON APPOINTED AS A DOG CONTROL OFFICER SHALL, BEFORE APPOINTMENT OR  
9     WITHIN ONE YEAR THEREAFTER, COMPLETE A COURSE OF TRAINING APPROVED BY  
10    THE DEPARTMENT AND SHALL TAKE AND PASS AN EXAMINATION GIVEN BY THE  
11    DEPARTMENT. ANY PERSON CURRENTLY EMPLOYED AS A DOG CONTROL OFFICER SHALL  
12    COMPLETE THE TRAINING AND TAKE AND PASS THE EXAMINATION NO LATER THAN  
13    DECEMBER FIRST, TWO THOUSAND ELEVEN. THE TRAINING AND CERTIFICATION  
14    SHALL BE AVAILABLE TO, BUT NOT REQUIRED FOR POLICE OFFICERS OR PEACE  
15    OFFICERS WHO DEAL WITH ANIMAL CONTROL OR ANIMAL ABUSE ISSUES.  
16    (B) A VETERINARIAN LICENSED PURSUANT TO ARTICLE ONE HUNDRED  
17    THIRTY-FIVE OF THE EDUCATION LAW SHALL BE EXEMPT FROM THE TRAINING  
18    REQUIRED BY SUBDIVISION ONE OF THIS SECTION.

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

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1 3. THE TRAINING PROGRAM REQUIRED BY THIS SECTION SHALL INCLUDE TRAIN-  
2 ING REGARDING:  
3 (A) THE SCOPE OF THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE DOG CONTROL OFFICER;  
4 (B) APPROPRIATE AND HUMANE HANDLING OF ANIMALS, INCLUDING TRANSPORTING  
5 ANIMALS SAFELY, GENERAL ANIMAL CONTROL AND PROPER METHODS FOR CAPTURING  
6 ANIMALS;  
7 (C) THE LAWS AND RULES REGARDING DOG LICENSING, AND SEARCH AND  
8 SEIZURE;  
9 (D) CRISIS INTERVENTION AND OFFICER SAFETY;  
10 (E) IDENTIFICATION OF RESOURCES TO HOUSE ANIMALS WHILE A CRIMINAL CASE  
11 IS RESOLVED;  
12 (F) REPORT WRITING AND COURTROOM TESTIMONY;  
13 (G) DISPOSAL OF THE REMAINS OF DECEASED ANIMALS;  
14 (H) IDENTIFICATION AND NOTIFICATION OF AN ANIMAL'S OWNER; AND  
15 (I) OTHER RELEVANT PROVISIONS OF THIS CHAPTER.  
16 4. THE GOVERNING BODY OF A POLITICAL SUBDIVISION THAT APPOINTS A DOG  
17 CONTROL OFFICER WHO FAILS TO OBTAIN CERTIFICATION WITHIN THE REQUIRED  
18 TIME SHALL TERMINATE THE APPOINTMENT.  
19 5. THE DEPARTMENT SHALL: (A) DETERMINE THE FORMAT OF THE TRAINING AND  
20 CERTIFICATION EXAMINATIONS, INCLUDING AN INTERNET-BASED FORMAT IF THE  
21 DEPARTMENT DEEMS SUCH TO BE APPROPRIATE;  
22 (B) ESTABLISH THE SCHEDULE FOR OFFERING TRAINING AND EXAMINATIONS;  
23 (C) ESTABLISH SUCH FEES AS THE DEPARTMENT DEEMS NECESSARY FOR TRAIN-  
24 ING, ADMISSION TO THE EXAMINATION, RE-EXAMINATION AND CERTIFICATION; AND  
25 (D) PROMULGATE RULES, REGULATIONS AND STANDARDS REGARDING THE APPLICA-  
26 TION OF THE TRAINING AND CERTIFICATION TOWARD RECERTIFICATION OR CONTIN-  
27 UING EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS.  
28 S 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2011, provided that, effective  
29 immediately, the addition, amendment and/or repeal of any rule or regu-  
30 lation necessary for the implementation of this act on its effective  
31 date are authorized and directed to be made and completed on or before  
32 such effective date.