

S T A T E O F N E W Y O R K

9001--A

2009-2010 Regular Sessions

I N A S S E M B L Y

June 18, 2009

Introduced by M. of A. ALESSI -- read once and referred to the Committee on Agriculture -- committee discharged, bill amended, ordered reprinted as amended and recommitted to said committee

AN ACT to amend the agriculture and markets law, in relation to the creation of a task force on the control of the stray cat population in New York state

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 356-a to read as follows:
3 S 356-A. TASK FORCE ON THE CONTROL OF THE STRAY CAT POPULATION. 1.
4 THE TASK FORCE ON THE CONTROL OF THE STRAY CAT POPULATION IS HEREBY
5 CREATED TO EXAMINE, EVALUATE, AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS ON EFFECTIVE
6 ACTIONS THAT CAN BE TAKEN AT THE STATE LEVEL FOR THE PURPOSE OF CONTROL-
7 LING THE POPULATION OF STRAY CATS.
8 2. SUCH TASK FORCE SHALL CONSIST OF TEN MEMBERS, EACH TO SERVE UNTIL
9 JANUARY FIFTEENTH, TWO THOUSAND TWELVE. SUCH MEMBERS SHALL INCLUDE EIGHT
10 AT LARGE MEMBERS APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR, INCLUDING TWO UPON THE
11 RECOMMENDATION OF THE TEMPORARY PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE; TWO UPON THE
12 RECOMMENDATION OF THE SPEAKER OF THE ASSEMBLY; ONE UPON THE RECOMMENDA-
13 TION OF THE MINORITY LEADER OF THE SENATE; AND ONE UPON THE RECOMMENDA-
14 TION OF THE MINORITY LEADER OF THE ASSEMBLY; PROVIDED THAT AT LEAST ONE
15 MEMBER APPOINTED REPRESENTS A DULY INCORPORATED SOCIETY FOR THE
16 PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS, ONE MEMBER REPRESENTS AN ORGANIZATION
17 THAT REPRESENTS HUMANE SOCIETIES, ONE MEMBER REPRESENTS A PROTECTIVE
18 ASSOCIATION FOR CATS, AND ONE MEMBER REPRESENTS AN ORGANIZATION REPRESENTING
19 VETERINARY PROFESSIONALS THAT IS ACTIVE IN THIS STATE. ADDI-
20 TIONAL MEMBERS SHALL BE THE COMMISSIONER AND COMMISSIONER OF HEALTH OR
21 THEIR DESIGNEES. APPOINTMENTS SHALL BE MADE WITHIN SIXTY DAYS OF THE
22 EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS SECTION. VACANCIES IN THE TASK FORCE SHALL BE
23 FILLED IN THE MANNER PROVIDED FOR ORIGINAL APPOINTMENTS.

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

LBD14388-02-9

1 3. THE GOVERNOR SHALL SELECT A CHAIR AND A VICE-CHAIR FROM AMONG THE
2 TASK FORCE'S MEMBERS.

3 4. THE TASK FORCE SHALL MEET AT LEAST THREE TIMES PER YEAR AT THE CALL
4 OF THE CHAIR. MEMBERS OF THE TASK FORCE SHALL RECEIVE NO COMPENSATION
5 FOR THEIR SERVICES BUT SHALL BE REIMBURSED FOR THEIR ACTUAL EXPENSES
6 INCURRED IN THE PERFORMANCE OF THEIR DUTIES IN THE WORK OF THE TASK
7 FORCE.

8 5. THE TASK FORCE ESTABLISHED SHALL:

9 (A) IDENTIFY, STUDY AND DETERMINE CONCERNS RELATING TO PUBLIC HEALTH
10 AND SAFETY AND THE HUMANE TREATMENT OF STRAY CATS IN THE STATE;

11 (B) EVALUATE WHAT ACTIONS MAY BE TAKEN AT THE STATE LEVEL TO ENSURE
12 THE PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY OF THE PEOPLE OF NEW YORK IN A MANNER
13 CONSISTENT WITH THE HUMANE TREATMENT OF STRAY CATS; AND

14 (C) PREPARE A REPORT IDENTIFYING POLICY OPTIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS
15 REGARDING LEGISLATION OR REGULATIONS REQUIRED TO RESOLVE PUBLIC HEALTH
16 AND SAFETY CONCERNS CONSISTENT WITH THE HUMANE TREATMENT OF STRAY CATS.

17 6. THE DEPARTMENT SHALL PROVIDE THE TASK FORCE WITH SUCH FACILITIES,
18 ASSISTANCE AND DATA AS WILL ENABLE THE TASK FORCE TO CARRY OUT ITS
19 RESPONSIBILITIES. ADDITIONALLY, ALL OTHER AGENCIES OF THE STATE OR
20 SUBDIVISIONS THEREOF SHALL, AT THE REQUEST OF THE CHAIR, PROVIDE THE
21 TASK FORCE WITH SUCH FACILITIES, ASSISTANCE, AND DATA AS WILL ENABLE THE
22 TASK FORCE TO CARRY OUT ITS RESPONSIBILITIES.

23 7. THE TASK FORCE SHALL MAKE A FINAL REPORT OF ITS FINDINGS, CONCLU-
24 SIONS, RECOMMENDATIONS AND ACTIVITIES ALREADY UNDERTAKEN BY THE TASK
25 FORCE, NOT LATER THAN JANUARY FIFTEENTH, TWO THOUSAND TWELVE AND SHALL
26 SUBMIT WITH ITS REPORTS LEGISLATIVE AND REGULATORY PROPOSALS AS IT DEEMS
27 NECESSARY TO IMPLEMENT ITS RECOMMENDATIONS.

28 S 2. This act shall take effect immediately.