

3537

2013-2014 Regular Sessions

I N   S E N A T E

February 5, 2013

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Introduced by Sen. GRISANTI -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Agriculture

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  
13    SUBDIVISION, COMPLETE THE TRAINING AND TAKE AND PASS THE EXAMINATION NO  
14    LATER THAN DECEMBER FIRST, TWO THOUSAND FIFTEEN. THE TRAINING AND  
15    CERTIFICATION SHALL BE AVAILABLE TO, BUT NOT REQUIRED FOR POLICE OFFI-  
16    CERS OR PEACE OFFICERS WHO DEAL WITH ANIMAL CONTROL OR ANIMAL ABUSE  
17    ISSUES.  
18    (B) A VETERINARIAN LICENSED PURSUANT TO ARTICLE ONE HUNDRED  
19    THIRTY-FIVE OF THE EDUCATION LAW SHALL BE EXEMPT FROM THE TRAINING  
20    REQUIRED BY SUBDIVISION ONE OF THIS SECTION.  
21    3. THE TRAINING PROGRAM REQUIRED BY THIS SECTION SHALL INCLUDE TRAIN-  
22    ING REGARDING:  
23    (A) THE SCOPE OF THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE DOG CONTROL OFFICER;

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

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1 (B) APPROPRIATE AND HUMANE HANDLING OF ANIMALS, INCLUDING TRANSPORTING  
2 ANIMALS SAFELY, GENERAL ANIMAL CONTROL AND PROPER METHODS FOR CAPTURING  
3 ANIMALS;

4 (C) THE LAWS AND RULES REGARDING DOG LICENSING, AND SEARCH AND  
5 SEIZURE;

6 (D) CRISIS INTERVENTION AND OFFICER SAFETY;

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

9 (F) REPORT WRITING AND COURTROOM TESTIMONY;

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

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

12 (I) OTHER RELEVANT PROVISIONS OF THIS CHAPTER.

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

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

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

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

24 S 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2015, provided that, effective  
25 immediately, the addition, amendment and/or repeal of any rule or regu-  
26 lation necessary for the implementation of this act on its effective  
27 date are authorized to be made on or before such effective date.