

6769--B

Cal. No. 505

I N S E N A T E

March 7, 2014

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.