

6769

I N S E N A T E

March 7, 2014

Introduced by Sen. LIBOUS -- 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 prohibiting piercing and tattooing of companion animals

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 353-f to read as follows:

3 S 353-F. COMPANION ANIMAL PIERCING AND TATTOOING PROHIBITED. 1. NO
4 PERSON SHALL PIERCE A COMPANION ANIMAL UNLESS SUCH PIERCING PROVIDES A
5 MEDICAL BENEFIT TO THE COMPANION ANIMAL. SUCH PIERCING SHALL BE
6 PERFORMED BY A LICENSED VETERINARIAN OR UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF A
7 LICENSED VETERINARIAN. NOTHING IN THIS SECTION SHALL BE CONSTRUED TO
8 APPLY TO EAR TAGS ON RABBITS AND CAVIES.

9 2. NO PERSON SHALL TATTOO A COMPANION ANIMAL UNLESS SUCH TATTOO:

10 (A) PROVIDES A MEDICAL BENEFIT TO THE COMPANION ANIMAL; OR

11 (B) IS DONE IN CONJUNCTION WITH A MEDICAL PROCEDURE FOR THE COMPANION
12 ANIMAL; OR

13 (C) IS DONE FOR THE PURPOSE OF IDENTIFICATION OF THE COMPANION ANIMAL
14 AND NOT FOR DESIGN PURPOSES, AND SUCH TATTOO INCLUDES ONLY SUCH NUMBERS
15 AND/OR LETTERS ALLOTTED BY A CORPORATION THAT IN THE REGULAR COURSE OF
16 ITS BUSINESS MAINTAINS AN ANIMAL TATTOO IDENTIFICATION REGISTRY.

17 3. TATTOOING FOR THE PURPOSES OF PROVIDING A MEDICAL BENEFIT TO THE
18 COMPANION ANIMAL OR DONE IN CONJUNCTION WITH A MEDICAL PROCEDURE FOR THE
19 COMPANION ANIMAL SHALL BE PERFORMED BY A LICENSED VETERINARIAN OR UNDER
20 THE SUPERVISION OF A LICENSED VETERINARIAN.

21 4. ANY PERSON FOUND IN VIOLATION OF THIS SECTION IS GUILTY OF A MISDE-
22 MEANOR PUNISHABLE BY IMPRISONMENT FOR NOT MORE THAN ONE YEAR, OR A FINE
23 OF NOT MORE THAN ONE THOUSAND DOLLARS, OR BY BOTH.

24 S 2. This act shall take effect on the one hundred twentieth day after
25 it shall have become a law.

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

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