

# STATE OF NEW YORK

749

2017-2018 Regular Sessions

## IN SENATE

January 4, 2017

Introduced by Sens. RITCHIE, AVELLA -- read twice and ordered printed,  
and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Investigations  
and Government Operations

AN ACT to amend the tax law, in relation to establishing a tax credit  
for the adoption of household pets

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assem-  
bly, do enact as follows:

1 Section 1. Section 606 of the tax law is amended by adding a new  
2 subsection (hhh) to read as follows:

3 (hhh) Credit for the adoption of household pets. (1) General. An indi-  
4 vidual taxpayer shall be allowed a credit for taxable years beginning on  
5 or after January first, two thousand seventeen against the tax imposed  
6 by this article for the cost of adopting a maximum of three household  
7 pets per taxable year from a qualifying animal shelter. The amount of  
8 the credit shall be one hundred dollars per animal or the actual cost of  
9 such adoption, whichever is less but shall not exceed the maximum credit  
10 of three hundred dollars per household pet, for a maximum of three pets  
11 per taxable year.

12 (2) Definitions. For the purposes of this subsection:

13 (A) The term "household pet" shall mean any dog, cat or other domesti-  
14 cated animal kept for the primary purpose of companionship that is  
15 normally maintained in or near the household of the owner or person who  
16 cares for such domesticated animal, provided that keeping such animal is  
17 not in violation of any applicable provisions of federal, state or local  
18 law.

19 (B) The term "qualifying animal shelter" shall mean the following:

20 (i) Any municipal pound or shelter harboring animals pursuant to  
21 subdivision one of section one hundred fourteen of the agriculture and  
22 markets law;

23 (ii) Any pound, shelter, duly incorporated society for the prevention  
24 of cruelty to animals, duly incorporated human society or duly incorpo-

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

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1 rated animal protective association that operates physical animal shel-  
2 tering facilities and offers household pets to the public for adoption  
3 by way of an established adoption program. Such facilities shall not be  
4 co-located on a residential premises; or

5 (iii) Any pound, shelter, duly incorporated society for the prevention  
6 of cruelty to animals, duly incorporated humane society or duly incorpor-  
7 ated animal protective association located in a city with a population  
8 of two million or more that operates physical animal sheltering facili-  
9 ties and offers household pets to the public for adoption by way of an  
10 established adoption program. Such facilities shall not be co-located on  
11 a residential premises.

12 (3) Eligibility. To qualify for the credit prescribed in the  
13 subsection, an individual taxpayer must provide proof of animal owner-  
14 ship in the form of an adoption agreement from a qualifying animal shel-  
15 ter as defined in this subsection, and written proof that such animal  
16 was spayed or neutered in accordance with section three hundred seven-  
17 ty-seven-a of the agriculture and markets law.

18 (4) When credit allowed. The credit provided for in this subsection  
19 shall be allowed with respect to the taxable year, commencing after  
20 January first, two thousand seventeen, in which the pet is adopted.

21 § 2. This act shall take effect immediately and shall apply to pet  
22 adoptions in taxable years beginning on and after the first of January  
23 next succeeding the date on which it shall have become a law.