AN ACT to amend the agriculture and markets law, in relation to the tethering of dogs

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

Section 1. The agriculture and markets law is amended by adding a new section 353-g to read as follows:

§ 353-g. Tethering, restraining, caging or penning of dogs. 1. It shall be unlawful to tie, tether, restrain, cage or pen a working or non-working dog outdoors, between the hours of 7 p.m. to 6 a.m.

2. A working or non-working dog may be tied, tethered, caged or penned outdoors between the hours of 6 a.m. and 7 p.m., to a stationary object or a pen or cage in a sized pen or cage four times the height and length of said dog; provided it is in a manner that is not inhumane or detrimental to the dog's welfare, doesn't cause the dog to choke, permits the dog to escape harm and permits the dog to reach food, water, shade and dry ground.

3. Any person who knowingly violates the provisions of this section shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, punishable by incarceration in city, town, village or county jail for not less than two days and not more than six months, shall perform between forty-eight and one hundred twenty hours of community service, and shall be subject to a fine of between two hundred dollars and one thousand dollars, upon their first offense.

Upon their second offense, such person shall be subject to incarceration in city, town, village or county jail for not less than ten days and not more than six months, and shall be subject to a fine of between one thousand dollars and two thousand dollars. Upon their third offense, such person shall be subject to a felony.

§ 2. This act shall take effect on the sixtieth day after it shall have become a law.

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