STATE OF NEW YORK

6222

2019-2020 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

May 23, 2019

Introduced by Sen. MARTINEZ -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Domestic Animal Welfare

AN ACT to amend the domestic relations law, in relation to requiring the court to consider the best interest of a companion animal when awarding possession in a divorce or separation proceeding

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

Section 1. Subparagraph 14 of paragraph d of subdivision 5 of part B of section 236 of the domestic relations law, as renumbered by chapter 229 of the laws of 2009, is renumbered subparagraph 15 and a new subparagraph 14 is added to read as follows:

(14) in awarding the possession of a companion animal, the court shall consider the best interest of such animal. "Companion animal," as used in this subparagraph, shall have the same meaning as in subdivision five of section three hundred fifty of the agriculture and markets law;

§ 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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

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