

STATE OF NEW YORK

9108

2025-2026 Regular Sessions

IN ASSEMBLY

September 26, 2025

Introduced by M. of A. BENDETT -- read once and referred to the Committee on Agriculture

AN ACT to amend the agriculture and markets law, in relation to including a town, through its dog control officers acting at the behest of a police officer, as an impounding organization

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

1 Section 1. Paragraph a of subdivision 6 of section 373 of the agriculture and markets law, as amended by chapter 289 of the laws of 2018, is amended to read as follows:

2 a. If any animal is seized and impounded pursuant to the provisions of
3 this section, section three hundred fifty-three-d of this article or
4 section three hundred seventy-five of this article for any violation of
5 this article, upon arraignment of charges, or within a reasonable time
6 thereafter, the duly incorporated society for the prevention of cruelty
7 to animals, humane society, pound, animal shelter or any authorized
8 agents thereof, or a town through its dog control officers who act at
9 the behest of a police officer to seize an animal, hereinafter referred
10 to for the purposes of this section as the "impounding organization",
11 may file a petition with the court in which criminal charges have been
12 filed requesting that the person from whom an animal is seized or the
13 owner of the animal be ordered to post a security. The district attorney
14 prosecuting the charges may file and obtain the requested relief on
15 behalf of the impounding organization if requested to do so by the
16 impounding organization. The security shall be in an amount sufficient
17 to secure payment for all reasonable expenses expected to be incurred by
18 the impounding organization in caring and providing for the animal pending
19 disposition of the charges. Reasonable expenses shall include, but
20 not be limited to, estimated medical care and boarding of the animal for
21 at least thirty days. The amount of the security, if any, shall be
22 determined by the court after taking into consideration all of the facts
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EXPLANATION--Matter in italics (underscored) is new; matter in brackets [-] is old law to be omitted.

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1 and circumstances of the case including, but not limited to the recom-
2 mendation of the impounding organization having custody and care of the
3 seized animal and the cost of caring for the animal. If a security has
4 been posted in accordance with this section, the impounding organization
5 may draw from the security the actual reasonable costs to be incurred by
6 such organization in caring for the seized animal.

7 § 2. This act shall take effect immediately.