



**House Bill No. 7158**

**Public Act No. 19-156**

**AN ACT EXEMPTING CERTAIN PERSONS ENGAGED IN THE BOARDING OF CATS AND DOGS FROM THE REQUIREMENT TO OBTAIN A LICENSE TO OPERATE A COMMERCIAL KENNEL.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

Section 1. Section 22-327 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

As used in this chapter:

(1) "Animal" means any brute creature, including, but not limited to, dogs, cats, monkeys, guinea pigs, hamsters, rabbits, birds and reptiles;

(2) "Chief Animal Control Officer", "Assistant Chief Animal Control Officer" and "animal control officer" mean, respectively, the Chief State Animal Control Officer, the Assistant Chief State Animal Control Officer and a state animal control officer appointed under section 22-328;

(3) "Commercial kennel" means a [kennel] place maintained for boarding or grooming dogs or cats, and includes, but is not limited to, any veterinary hospital which boards or grooms dogs or cats for nonmedical purposes;

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(4) "Commissioner" means the Commissioner of Agriculture;

(5) "Grooming facility" means any place, other than a commercial kennel, which is maintained as a business where dogs are groomed;

(6) "Keeper" means any person, other than the owner, harboring or having in his possession any dog;

(7) "Kennel" means one pack or collection of dogs which are kept under one ownership at a single location and are bred for show, sport or sale;

(8) "Municipal animal control officer" means any such officer appointed under the provisions of section 22-331;

(9) "Pet shop" means any place at which animals not born and raised on the premises are kept for the purpose of sale to the public;

(10) "Poultry" means all domestic fowl and any pheasants or other game birds securely confined and lawfully owned and possessed by any person under the provisions of section 26-40;

(11) "Regional animal control officer" and "assistant regional animal control officer" means a regional Connecticut animal control officer and an assistant regional Connecticut animal control officer appointed under the provisions of section 22-331a;

(12) "Training facility" means any place, other than a commercial kennel or grooming facility, which is maintained as a business where dogs are trained.

Sec. 2. Subsection (a) of section 22-344 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(a) (1) No person shall maintain a commercial kennel until he has

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obtained from the commissioner a license to maintain such kennel under such regulations as the commissioner provides as to sanitation, disease and humane treatment of dogs or cats and the protection of the public safety. Upon written application and the payment of a fee of four hundred dollars, the commissioner shall issue such license to be effective until the second December thirty-first following issuance provided the commissioner finds (A) that such regulations have been complied with, and (B) in the case of each initial application for such license, that the zoning enforcement official of the municipality wherein such kennel is to be maintained has certified that the kennel conforms to the municipal zoning regulations. Such license shall be renewed biennially, not later than December thirty-first, in accordance with the provisions of this section, and may be transferred by the licensee to another premises upon approval of the commissioner.

(2) Any person who maintains a commercial kennel and who advertises the services of such commercial kennel shall cause the license number for such commercial kennel, as issued pursuant to this section, to clearly appear in such advertisement. The commissioner may adopt regulations, in accordance with chapter 54, to prescribe the requirements for the appearance of the license number of a commercial kennel in any form of advertisement. Such regulation may include, but need not be limited to, the size, font and location of such license number for any given form of advertisement.

(3) For purposes of this subsection, no person who boards three or fewer cats or dogs in his or her residence shall be required to obtain a commercial kennel license pursuant to this subsection.