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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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HOUSE BILL

No. 486 Session of  
2013

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INTRODUCED BY KAUFFMAN, MILLER, M. K. KELLER, D. COSTA,  
GINGRICH, STERN, KORTZ AND GABLER, FEBRUARY 4, 2013

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REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND RURAL AFFAIRS,  
FEBRUARY 4, 2013

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AN ACT

1 Amending the act of December 7, 1982 (P.L.784, No.225),  
2 entitled, as amended, "An act relating to dogs, regulating  
3 the keeping of dogs; providing for the licensing of dogs and  
4 kennels; providing for the protection of dogs and the  
5 detention and destruction of dogs in certain cases;  
6 regulating the sale and transportation of dogs; declaring  
7 dogs to be personal property and the subject of theft;  
8 providing for the abandonment of animals; providing for the  
9 assessment of damages done to animals; providing for payment  
10 of damages by the Commonwealth in certain cases and the  
11 liability of the owner or keeper of dogs for such damages;  
12 imposing powers and duties on certain State and local  
13 officers and employees; providing penalties; and creating a  
14 Dog Law Restricted Account," further providing for  
15 requirements for kennels.

16 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
17 hereby enacts as follows:

18 Section 1. Section 207(a.1) of the act of December 7, 1982  
19 (P.L.784, No.225), known as the Dog Law, amended October 9, 2008  
20 (P.L.1450, No.119), is amended to read:

21 Section 207. Requirements for kennels.

22 (a.1) Prohibition to operate; injunction; fines.--

23 (1) It shall be unlawful for kennels described under  
24 section 206 to operate without first obtaining a kennel

1 license from the department.

2 (2) The secretary shall not approve any kennel license  
3 application unless such kennel has been inspected and  
4 approved by a State dog warden or employee of the department.

5 (3) The secretary may file a suit in equity in the  
6 Commonwealth Court to enjoin the operation of any kennel that  
7 violates any of the provisions of this act.

8 (4) It shall be no defense to any civil penalty or  
9 criminal prosecution under this act that a person operating a  
10 kennel failed to properly obtain the appropriate license.

11 (5) A kennel operator that is applying for a different  
12 license because of an increase in the total number of dogs or  
13 due to birth of additional dogs in the kennel during a  
14 calendar year shall not be in violation, provided the  
15 application is filed within seven days of the increase[.] and  
16 is accompanied by a fee equal to the difference between the  
17 amount of the license fee already paid for the calendar year  
18 and the amount of the license fee for the kennel class of the  
19 new application.

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21 Section 2. This act shall take effect immediately.