

No. 1982-225

AN ACT

HB 1459

Relating to dogs, regulating the keeping of dogs; providing for the licensing of dogs and kennels; providing for the protection of dogs and the detention and destruction of dogs in certain cases; regulating the sale and transportation of dogs; declaring dogs to be personal property and the subject of theft; providing for the assessment of damages done to livestock, poultry and domestic game birds; providing for payment of damages by the Commonwealth in certain cases and the liability of the owner or keeper of dogs for such damages; imposing powers and duties on certain State and local officers and employees; providing penalties; and creating a Dog Law Restricted Account.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Article I. Short Title and Definitions

- Section 101. Short title.
- Section 102. Definitions.

Article II. Licenses, Tags and Kennels

- Section 201. Applications for licenses; fees; county treasurers as agents.
- Section 202. License certificates; removal, exclusion for some dogs.
- Section 203. Tags furnished to county treasurers; lost tags.
- Section 204. Who shall issue licenses; fees; records.
- Section 205. Transfer of licenses or tags; other licensing requirements.
- Section 206. Kennels.
- Section 207. Transfer of kennels.
- Section 208. Kennels in first and second class cities.
- Section 209. Out-of-state kennel license; application; fee; prohibitions.
- Section 210. Bills of sale.
- Section 211. Revocation or refusal of licenses.
- Section 212. Dogs temporarily in the Commonwealth.
- Section 213. Transportation of dogs.
- Section 214. Health certificates for importation.
- Section 215. Selling, bartering or trading dogs.
- Section 216. County and city treasurer records, licenses and transfers.
- Section 217. Guide dogs, hearing dogs, aid dogs for the handicapped and dogs used by municipal or State Police departments.
- Section 218. Inspections of premises and dogs.

Article III. Dogs at Large

- Section 301. Quarantines.
- Section 302. Seizure and detention of licensed dogs; costs; destruction of dogs.
- Section 303. Seizure and detention of unlicensed dogs; costs; destruction of dogs.
- Section 304. Dogs in heat; confinement thereof.
- Section 305. Confinement of dogs.

Article IV. Duties of Officers

- Section 401. Interference with police officer or State dog warden; duties of State dog warden; failure to produce license certificate.

Article V. Offenses of Dogs

- Section 501. Killing dogs; complaints in trespass before district justice; vicious dogs; fines; bonds.
- Section 502. Dog bites; detention and isolation of dogs.

Article VI. Injury to Dogs

- Section 601. Theft; poison; abandonment.
- Section 602. Dogs used for law enforcement.

Article VII. Dog Caused Damages

- Section 701. Damages; complaints; examination of claims; liability; quarantines.
- Section 702. Quarantines due to damages.
- Section 703. Payments of claims out of Dog Law Restricted Account; rights against dog owners inuring to the Commonwealth.
- Section 704. Killing of dogs causing damages.
- Section 705. Harboring unlicensed dogs; forfeiture of rights of reimbursement.

Article VIII. Statements and Proofs

- Section 801. False statements.
- Section 802. Burdens of proof.

Article IX. Enforcement and Penalties

- Section 901. Enforcement of this act by the Secretary of Agriculture; provisions for inspections.
- Section 902. Rules and regulations.
- Section 903. Violations.
- Section 904. Tattoos altered.
- Section 905. Disposition of fines and penalties.

Article X. Disposition and Appropriation of Funds

Section 1001. Dog Law Restricted Account; disposition and appropriation of funds accruing under the provisions of this act.

Section 1002. County dog law programs.

Article XI. Liability of the Commonwealth

Section 1101. Liability of the State.

Article XII. Miscellaneous Provisions

Section 1201. Applicability to cities of the first class, second class and second class A.

Section 1202. Abandonment of animals by owner.

Section 1203. Severability.

Section 1204. Acts not affected.

Section 1205. Repealer.

Section 1206. Effective date.

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

**ARTICLE I
SHORT TITLE AND DEFINITIONS**

Section 101. Short title.

This act shall be known and may be cited as the "Dog Law."

Section 102. Definitions.

The following words and phrases when used in this act shall have, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise, the meanings given to them in this section:

"Boarding kennel." Any kennel available to the general public where dogs are housed or trained for compensation by the day, week or a specified or unspecified time; but the term shall not include those kennels where the practice of veterinary medicine is performed and that the establishment is covered by the provisions of the act of December 27, 1974 (P.L.995, No.326), known as the "Veterinary Medicine Practice Act," but shall include any facility operated by a veterinarian whether or not this facility is on the same premises as a veterinary hospital.

"Breeding kennel." Any kennel operated for the purpose of breeding, buying and selling or in any way transferring dogs for non-research purposes.

"County treasurer." The elected officer for any county or any county employee assigned to the office of the county treasurer charged with the receipt, custody and disbursements of its moneys or funds. The term county treasurer shall include those officials in home rule charter counties responsible for county treasurer's duties.

“Department.” The Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture.

“Dog.” The genus and species known as *Canis familiaris*.

“Dog control.” The apprehending, holding and disposing of stray or unwanted dogs or activities that reduce the number of dog related problems. Dog control activities may be performed by agents of incorporated humane organizations, police, State dog wardens or agents of animal control organizations such as municipal dog control officers.

“Domestic game bird.” All game birds as defined by the act of June 3, 1937 (P.L.1225, No.316), known as “The Game Law,” which are kept in captivity.

“Kennel.” Any establishment wherein dogs are kept for the purpose of breeding, hunting, training, renting, research or vivisection, buying, boarding, sale, show or any other similar purpose and is so constructed that dogs cannot stray therefrom.

“Livestock.” Members of the equine, bovine, ovine, caprine, and porcine species, and confined domesticated hares, rabbits and mink.

“Nonprofit kennel.” Any kennel operated by Animal Rescue Leagues, Societies for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, Animal Humane Societies, and nonprofit animal control kennels, which are legally constituted law enforcement agencies and approved medical and veterinary schools and nonprofit institutions conducting medical and scientific research shall be required to register, but shall not be required to pay any of the following license fees, and may use their own identification tags for dogs within their kennels without being required to attach tags hereinafter prescribed while dogs are within such kennels, if approved by the Secretary of Agriculture.

“Out-of-state dealer.” Anyone who does not reside in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and who buys, sells or otherwise deals with dogs within the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

“Owner.” When applied to the proprietorship of a dog, includes every person having a right of property in such dog, and every person who keeps or harbors such dog or has it in his care, and every person who permits such dog to remain on or about any premises occupied by him.

“Persons.” Includes State and local officers, or employees, individuals, corporations, copartnerships and associations. Singular words shall include the plural. Masculine words shall include the feminine and neuter.

“Pet shop-kennel.” Any kennel or person that acquires and sells dogs for the purpose of resale, whether as owner, agent or consignee, and sells or offers to sell such dogs on a retail basis.

“Police officer.” Any person employed or elected by this Commonwealth, or by any municipality and whose duty it is to preserve peace or to make arrests or to enforce the law. The term includes State constabulary, dog, game, fish and forest wardens.

“Poultry.” Includes all domestic fowl.

“Private kennel.” A kennel at, in, or adjoining a residence where dogs are kept or bred by their owner, for the purpose of hunting, tracking and exhibiting in dog shows, or field and obedience trials.

“Research.” Investigation or experimentation aimed at the discovery and interpretation of facts or procedures, revision of accepted theories or laws in the light of new facts or practical application of such new or revised theories or laws as related to the advancement of medical science and technological treatment of disease or surgical operations, medical procedures, transplants, functions and any form of medical or pharmacological actions on dogs when applied and personally supervised by a qualified scientist with degrees approved by the secretary.

“Research, vivisection or dealer kennel.” (D kennels) Any profit oriented kennel within the Commonwealth wherein research or vivisection is conducted with dogs, or any establishment that breeds, buys, sells, or in any way transfers dogs to laboratories, hospitals, establishments for research or any other similar purpose, or who sells, gives away or in any way transfers dogs to another research, vivisection or dealer kennel (D kennel), or who sells or offers for sale any dog belonging to another person for a fee, commission or percentage of the sales price, either privately or publicly.

“Secretary.” The Secretary of Agriculture or any person to whom authority has been delegated by the Secretary of Agriculture.

“State dog warden.” An employee of the department whose primary duty is to enforce this act and the regulations pursuant thereto.

“Vivisection.” The cutting of or operation on a living animal for physical or pathological investigation or animal experimentation.

ARTICLE II LICENSES, TAGS AND KENNELS

Section 201. Applications for licenses; fees; county treasurers as agents.

(a) General rule.—Except as provided in subsection (b), on or before January 1 of each year, the owner of any dog, six months of age or older, except as hereinafter provided, shall apply to the county treasurer of his respective county or his authorized agent, on a form prescribed by the department for a license for such dog. The application and license certificate shall state the breed, sex, age, color and markings of such dog, and the name, address and telephone number of the owner. The application shall be accompanied by a license fee of \$2.50 for each neutered male dog and for each spayed female dog for which the certificate of a veterinarian or the affidavit of the owner is produced, and by a license fee of \$4.50 for all other male and female dogs. For Pennsylvania residents 65 years of age or older, the license fee shall be \$1.25 for each neutered male dog and for each spayed female dog for which the certificate of a veterinarian or the affidavit of the owner is produced, and the license fee shall be \$2.25 for all other male or female dogs. When the license is issued by the county treasurer, an additional service fee of 50¢ shall be paid by all applicants regardless of age to the county treasurer for the use of the county. The county treasurers of this Commonwealth shall be agents of the Commonwealth for the collection of license fees. All county treasur-

ers shall pay all license fees collected through the Department of Agriculture into the State Treasury for credit to the Dog Law Restricted Account.

(b) Lifetime license.—The owner of any dog six months of age or older which has been tattooed with identification numbers may apply to the county treasurer of his respective county or his authorized agent, on a form prescribed by the department for a lifetime license for such a dog. The application and license certificate shall state the breed, sex, age, color and markings of such a dog, the identifying tattoo number, and the name, address and telephone number of the owner. The application shall be accompanied by a license fee of \$10 for each neutered male dog and for each spayed female dog for which the certificate of a veterinarian or the affidavit of the owner is produced, and by a license fee of \$20 for all other male and female dogs. For Pennsylvania residents 65 years of age or older, the license fee shall be \$5 for each neutered male dog and for each spayed female dog for which the certificate of a veterinarian or the affidavit of the owner is produced, and \$10 for all other male and female dogs. When the license is issued by the county treasurer, an additional service fee of 50¢ shall be paid by all applicants regardless of age to the county treasurer for the use of the county. The department shall promulgate regulations to provide for the registration of lifetime tattoo identification numbers with the department.

Section 202. License certificates; removal, exclusion for some dogs.

Each license certificate shall be dated and numbered, and shall bear the name of the county where such license is issued and any other information required pursuant to regulations promulgated by the department. All licenses except lifetime licenses as provided in section 201(b) shall expire upon December 31 of the year for which the license was issued. A tag bearing the same number issued with the license certificate shall be affixed to a substantial collar or harness. The collar or harness shall be furnished by the owner, and, with the tag attached, shall at all times be kept on the dog for which the license is issued, except as otherwise provided in this act. Dogs which are confined or are actively engaged in shows, obedience or field trials are excluded from wearing a current license tag on a collar or harness, as long as a current tag is in the possession of the owner or handler for each dog. It shall be unlawful for any person, except the owner or his authorized agent, or a State dog warden, to remove any license tag from a dog's collar or harness or to remove any collar or harness with a license tag attached thereto from any dog, except as provided in the act of June 3, 1937 (P.L.1225, No.316), known as "The Game Law," and except as herein or otherwise provided.

Section 203. Tags furnished to county treasurers; lost tags.

The department shall furnish to the county treasurers tags to be given to applicants for dog licenses. Such tags shall bear the name of the county where such license is issued, and a serial number corresponding to the number on the issued license certificate. Such tags shall not contain more than one square inch of area between the ears or the fastening

device and have impressed thereon the calendar year for which the tag is valid. If any tag is lost, it shall be replaced by the county treasurer upon production of the license certificate. The cost for the issuance of a tag due to loss shall be 50¢ paid to the county treasurer for the use of the county.

Section 204. Who shall issue licenses; fees; records.

The county treasurer may authorize agents to process applications for dog license certificates and to issue license certificates and tags. The county treasurer shall establish the bonding requirements for all agents designated for purposes of this section, except for district justices who when authorized by the county treasurer shall not be required to furnish a bond. All persons designated by the county treasurer under this section shall charge 75¢ as a service fee for each application processed in addition to the license fees established under section 201. The agent shall retain 25¢ of this service fee and the county treasurer shall retain 50¢ of the service fee for the use of the county except when the agent is a district justice, when the entire service fee shall be remitted to the county treasurer for the use of the county. All records of applications by agents designated by the county treasurer under this section shall be forwarded to the county treasurer who shall maintain all dog license application records for the county.

Section 205. Transfer of licenses or tags; other licensing requirements.

(a) **Transfer of license.**—It is unlawful to transfer a license or license tag issued for one dog to another dog, except as otherwise provided in this act. Whenever the ownership or possession of any dog is permanently transferred from one person to another within the same county, the license of such dog may be likewise transferred, upon application to the county treasurer. A new license, or the transfer of a license already secured, is not required when the possession of a dog is temporarily transferred for the purpose of hunting game, or for breeding, boarding and training, trial or show, in this Commonwealth. The county treasurer shall charge and retain 25¢ for such transfer application.

(b) **Dog moved to another county.**—Whenever any dog licensed in one county is permanently moved to another county, the county treasurer of the county where the license was issued shall, upon the application of the owner or keeper of such dog, certify such license to the treasurer of the county to which the dog is moved. Such treasurer shall thereupon, and upon the payment of a fee of 50¢ for the use of the county to, issue a license and tag for such dog in the county to which it is moved.

(c) **Owners of unlicensed dogs.**—Any person other than as exempt in section 206, becoming the owner after January 1 of any year, of any dog, six months old or older, which has not already been licensed, or any person owning or keeping a dog which becomes six months old after January 1 of any year, shall forthwith apply for and secure, from the county treasurer or his agent of the county where such dogs are kept, a license for such dog in the same manner as the annual license is obtained under the provisions of this act.

Section 206. Kennels.

(a) Applications and license fees.—Any person who keeps or operates any kennel may, on or before January 1 of each year, apply to the county treasurer for a kennel license. The county treasurer shall forward all applications for a kennel license to the secretary for approval before a kennel license shall be issued. The application forms and licenses shall be as designated by the secretary. A separate license shall be required for each type of kennel and every location at which a kennel is kept or operated. A kennel license is required to keep or operate any establishment that keeps, harbors, boards, shelters, sells, gives away or in any way transfers a cumulative total of 26 or more dogs of any age in any one calendar year. All kennel licenses shall expire on January 1. The county treasurer shall, after receiving approval on the application from the secretary, issue kennel licenses of the following description, charging the fees indicated for each classification. In addition, the county treasurer shall charge a 50¢ service fee for the use of the county. When two or more licensed kennels are operated by the same person at the same location, the kennel shall be inspected and licensed for each use but the license fee charged shall be the highest fee.

Private Kennel Class I.

To keep or operate a kennel for a cumulative total of 50 dogs or less of any age during a calendar year for any nonresearch related purpose - \$30 per year.

Private Kennel Class II.

To keep or operate a kennel for a cumulative total of 51 to 100 dogs of any age during a calendar year for any nonresearch related purpose - \$100 per year.

Breeding Kennel Class I.

To keep or operate a kennel for a cumulative total of 150 dogs of any age or less during a calendar year for any nonresearch related purpose - \$150 per year.

Breeding Kennel Class II.

To keep or operate a kennel for a cumulative total of 151 or more dogs of any age during a calendar year for any nonresearch related purpose - \$300 per year.

Pet Shop-Kennel Class I.

To keep or operate, as a pet shop, a kennel involving the sale of 50 dogs or less of any age during a calendar year - \$30 per year.

Pet Shop-Kennel Class II.

To keep or operate, as a pet shop, a kennel involving the sale of 51 to 100 dogs of any age during a calendar year - \$100 per year.

Pet Shop-Kennel Class III.

To keep or operate, as a pet shop, a kennel involving the sale of 101 to 150 dogs of any age during a calendar year - \$150 per year.

Pet Shop-Kennel Class IV.

To keep or operate, as a pet shop, a kennel involving the sale of 151 or more dogs of any age during a calendar year - \$300 per year.

Boarding Kennel.

To keep or operate a boarding kennel - \$35 per year.

D Kennel Class I.

To keep or operate a research, vivisection or dealer kennel for a cumulative total of less than 500 dogs of any age during the calendar year - \$150 per year.

D Kennel Class II.

To keep or operate a research, vivisection or dealer kennel for a cumulative total of 500 to 5,000 dogs of any age during the calendar year - \$300 per year.

D Kennel Class III.

To keep or operate a research, vivisection or dealer kennel for a cumulative total of more than 5,000 dogs of any age during the calendar year - \$500 per year.

Nonprofit Kennel - No fee.

(b) Nonprofit kennels.—A nonprofit kennel shall apply for a nonprofit kennel license. Such kennel may use its own identification tags for dogs confined therein. The secretary may approve, upon application, the removal of tags from licensed dogs confined therein.

(c) Prohibition to operate; injunction; fines.—It shall be unlawful for kennels described under this section to operate without first obtaining a kennel license. The secretary may file a suit in equity in the Commonwealth Court to enjoin the operation of any kennel that violates any of the provisions of this act. In addition, the secretary may seek in such suit the imposition of a fine for every day in violation of this act for an amount not to exceed \$50 per day.

(d) Issuance of tags.—The county treasurer shall issue the number of tags equal to the number of dogs six months of age or older approved by the secretary to be kept in a kennel described under this section. All tags shall bear the name of the county where they are issued, the kennel license number and any other information required by the secretary through regulations.

Section 207. Transfer of kennels.

(a) Kennel removed to another county.—Whenever any person who keeps or operates a kennel permanently removes the kennel to another county, he shall file an application with the secretary to transfer his license to the county of removal. Upon approval by the secretary, the kennel license shall remain in effect, until it has expired pursuant to section 206.

(b) Maintenance of kennels.—All kennels shall be maintained in a sanitary and humane condition in accordance with standards and sanitary codes promulgated by the secretary.

(c) Records to be maintained.—Every keeper of a kennel shall keep a record of each dog at any time kept in the kennel for two years. Such record shall show:

- (1) The breed, color, markings, sex and age of each dog.

- (2) The date on which each dog entered the kennel.
- (3) Where it came from.
- (4) To whom it belongs.
- (5) For what purpose each dog is kept in the kennel.
- (6) The date on which each dog leaves the kennel.
- (7) How and to whom it is disposed.

Such record shall be legible and shall be open to inspection by any employee of the department, State dog warden or police officer or agent of any legally constituted law enforcement agency as defined by this act.

(d) Additional requirements.—Every holder of a kennel license shall attach one tag to a collar or harness of each dog six months old or older kept by that person, whenever the dog is not within the kennel except as provided for in section 202.

Section 208. Kennels in first and second class cities.

All owners or operators of kennels described in section 206(a) in cities of the first class, second class and second class A shall apply for an applicable license. Persons operating and maintaining such kennels shall comply with the provisions of this act and shall be subject to the same penalties for violations of this act. Such persons shall apply to the applicable treasurer who shall process the applications in the same manner as provided herein for county treasurers.

Section 209. Out-of-state kennel license; application; fee; prohibitions.

(a) Out-of-state dealers.—All out-of-state dealers shall on or before January 1 of each year, apply to the secretary for an out-of-state kennel license. The fee for such license shall be \$300. All fees collected under this section shall be remitted to the State Treasury for credit to the Dog Law Restricted Account. All licenses under this section shall expire upon December 31 of the year for which the license was issued. The forms for the application and license shall be approved by the secretary through regulations.

(b) Unlawful acts.—It shall be unlawful for out-of-state dealers to transport dogs into or within the Commonwealth or to operate or maintain a kennel or to deal in any manner with dogs without first obtaining an out-of-state kennel license from the department.

Section 210. Bills of sale.

All owners or operators of kennels described in section 206, and all out-of-state dealers shall be required to have in their possession a bill of sale for each dog purchased or transported, except for dogs delivered to the kennel licensee for purposes of boarding or for dogs whelped at the kennel. Any bill of sale which is fraudulent or indicates the theft of any dog, shall be prima facie evidence for the immediate revocation of license by the secretary. The bill of sale shall contain information required by the secretary through regulations.

Section 211. Revocation or refusal of licenses.

The secretary shall have the power to revoke or refuse to issue any kennel license for conviction of any violation of this act or the noncompliance with any regulations pursuant to this act or for the conviction for violation of any law relating to cruelty to animals.

Section 212. Dogs temporarily in the Commonwealth.

Any person may bring, or cause to be brought into the State, for a period of 30 days, one or more dogs for show, trial, or breeding purposes or as a household pet without securing a Pennsylvania license, and any person holding a Pennsylvania nonresident hunting license may, without securing a license or licenses therefor, bring or cause to be brought into the State one or more dogs for the purpose of hunting game during any hunting season when hunting with dogs is permitted by law, if a similar exemption from the necessity of securing dog licenses is afforded for hunting purposes to residents of Pennsylvania by the state of such person's residence; but each dog shall be equipped with a collar bearing a name plate giving the name and address of the owner.

Section 213. Transportation of dogs.

It shall be unlawful for any dog required to be licensed as hereinbefore provided, to be transported for any purpose without a current license tag firmly attached to a collar or harness securely fastened to the dog except when a dog is being transported for law enforcement or humane purposes. All vehicles being used to transport dogs are subject to inspection and must meet requirements for such transportation through regulations as promulgated by the secretary.

Section 214. Health certificates for importation.

It shall be unlawful to transport any dog into this Commonwealth except under the provisions in section 212 without a certificate of health prepared by a licensed graduate veterinarian, which certificate shall accompany such dog while in this Commonwealth. Such certificate shall state that the dog is at least seven weeks of age and shows no signs or symptoms of infectious or communicable disease; did not originate within an area under quarantine for rabies; and, as ascertained by reasonable investigation, has not been exposed to rabies within 100 days of importation. All dogs over three months and under one year of age shall have been vaccinated against rabies with an approved rabies vaccine. All dogs over one year of age shall have been vaccinated or revaccinated against rabies after one year of age. The vaccination to prevent rabies shall be valid for a period of three years for dogs vaccinated at more than one year of age with an approved three-year MLV vaccine or inactivated vaccine and for a period of one year for all other approved inactivated vaccines. The name of the vaccine manufacturer, the date of administration, and the rabies tag number must appear on health certificates prepared by a licensed graduate veterinarian.

Section 215. Selling, bartering or trading dogs.

It shall be unlawful for any person to buy, sell, transfer, barter, trade, raffle, rent, auction or offer as an inducement to purchase any product,

commodity or service, any dog at any public place other than at licensed kennel locations, pet shop-kennels licensed pursuant to this act, dog shows, or field trials sponsored by a recognized breed or kennel association. For purposes of this section the term public place shall mean a place to which the general public has a right to resort; not necessarily a place devoted solely to the uses of the public, but a place which is in point of fact public rather than private, a place visited by many persons and usually accessible to the neighboring public. It shall be unlawful to barter, trade, sell or in any way transfer any dog under seven weeks of age, unless such puppies have been orphaned and it becomes necessary to transfer said orphaned puppies to a nonprofit kennel.

Section 216. County and city treasurer records, licenses and transfers.

The county or city treasurer shall keep a record of all dog licenses for a period of two years or more as directed by the secretary and all kennel licenses and all transfers issued during the year. Such record shall contain the name and address of the person to whom each license is issued. In the case of an individual license, the record shall also state the breed, sex, age, color and markings of the dog licensed; and in the case of a kennel license, it shall state the place where the business is conducted. The record shall be a public record and open to persons interested during business hours. Whenever the ownership or possession of any dog licensed under the provisions of this act is transferred from one person to another, as provided in section 205, except the temporary transfer of dogs for hunting purposes or for breeding, trial, or show, such transfer shall be noted on the record of the county or city treasurer and be so reported to the department. The county or city treasurer shall keep an accurate record for two years of all license fees collected by him or paid over to him by any district justice or authorized agent of the treasurer. License fees as herein provided shall be remitted by the county or city treasurer to the State Treasurer through the Department of Agriculture for credit to the Dog Law Restricted Account on or before the 15th day of each calendar month together with a report of each payer on forms furnished by the department.

Section 217. Guide dogs, hearing dogs, aid dogs for the handicapped and dogs used by municipal or State Police departments.

The provisions of this act relating to the payment of fees and other charges shall not apply to any blind person owning a guide dog or any deaf person owning a hearing dog or any handicapped person who uses a dog for aid or any municipal or State Police department or agency using a dog in the performance of the functions or duties of such department or agency. License tags for dog guides for the blind, hearing dogs for the deaf, aid dogs for the handicapped and dogs used by any municipal or State agency in the performance of the functions or duties of such department or agency shall be issued without charge.

Section 218. Inspections of premises and dogs.

State dog wardens and other employees of the department are hereby authorized to inspect all kennels and individually licensed dogs within the Commonwealth and to enforce the provisions of this act and regulations promulgated by the department pursuant to this act: Provided, however, That only regular, full-time employees of the department shall be authorized to enter upon the premises of approved medical, dental, or veterinary schools, hospitals, clinics, or other medical or scientific institutions, organizations or persons where research is being conducted or pharmaceuticals, drugs or biologicals are being produced. Research facilities in the Commonwealth that are currently under Federal Government inspection shall be exempt from State inspection if they have undergone no less than one Federal Government inspection within the past 12 months. Submission of such evidence of Federal inspection by documentation to the department may be established by regulation subject to legislative review. It shall be unlawful for any person to refuse admittance to such State dog wardens and employees of the department for the purpose of making inspections and enforcing the provisions of this act.

**ARTICLE III
DOGS AT LARGE**

Section 301. Quarantines.

A quarantine may be established by any State dog warden employed by the department, accredited veterinarian having the approval of a State dog warden or veterinarian employed by the department or State or county health department. Any State dog warden employed by the department, accredited veterinarian having the approval of a State dog warden or veterinarian employed by the department or State or county health department may enforce a quarantine whenever it is deemed necessary or advisable by the department to examine, test, treat, control or destroy any dog, or examine, disinfect, or regulate the use of any premises, materials or products for the purpose of preventing or controlling the spread of any disease. Until a quarantine is officially revoked by the secretary or his employee, it shall be unlawful for any owner or person, without a special permit in writing from the department to sell, exchange, lease, lend, give away, allow to stray, remove or allow to be removed any dog or dogs, or any products, goods, materials, containers, vehicles, or other articles or property named or described in the notice of quarantine. When a general rabies quarantine is established, at least ten notices thereof shall be posted throughout the area affected thereby and notice thereof shall also be published in at least one issue of a newspaper of general circulation throughout such city, borough, town or township. Any dog suspected of being rabid shall be detained in isolation by the owner, if known, or employee of the department. If such detention has incurred costs not collectible by the employee of the department, then the employee of the department shall approve and reimburse the actual cost of such detention to the person providing facilities for such detention.

Any police officer or State dog warden may kill any dog running at large in a rabies quarantined area without any liability for damages for such killing.

Section 302. Seizure and detention of licensed dogs; costs; destruction of dogs.

It shall be the duty of every police officer or State dog warden to seize and detain any licensed dog which is found running at large, either upon the public streets or highways of the Commonwealth, or upon the property of a person other than the owner of such dog, and unaccompanied by the owner or keeper. Every police officer or State dog warden may kill any dog which is found running at large and is deemed after due consideration by the police officer or State dog warden to constitute a threat to the public health and welfare. The chief of police or his agents of any city, borough, town or township, the constable of any borough and the constable of any incorporated town or township shall cause any dog bearing a proper license tag or legible tattoo and so seized and detained to be properly kept and fed and shall cause immediate notice, by registered or certified mail with return receipt, to the person in whose name the license was procured, or his agent, to claim such dog within five days after receipt thereof. The owner or claimant of a dog so detained shall pay a penalty of \$15 to the political subdivision whose police officers make such seizures and detention and all reasonable expenses incurred by reason of its detention to the detaining parties before the dog is returned. If five days after obtaining the postal return receipt, such dog has not been claimed, such chief of police, or his agent, or a constable, or State dog warden shall dispose of such dog by sale or by destruction in some humane manner. No dog so caught and detained shall be sold for the purpose of vivisection, or research, or be conveyed in any manner for these purposes. All moneys derived from the sale of such dog, after deducting the expenses of its detention, shall be paid through the Department of Agriculture to the State Treasurer for credit to the Dog Law Restricted Account.

Section 303. Seizure and detention of unlicensed dogs; costs; destruction of dogs.

Except as is otherwise provided by section 305, any police officer, State dog warden, animal control officer or constable shall cause any unlicensed or untattooed dog to be seized, detained, kept and fed for a period of 48 hours at any legally constituted or authorized kennel approved by the secretary; except any dog seriously ill or injured, or forfeited with the owner's permission. Any person may view such detained dogs during normal business hours. Any unlicensed dog remaining unclaimed after 48 hours may be euthanized in a humane manner. No dog so caught and detained by any legally constituted law enforcement agency or municipality shall be sold or given freely for the purpose of vivisection or research or be conveyed in any manner for any such purposes.

Section 304. Dogs in heat; confinement thereof.

It shall be unlawful for the owner or keeper of any female dog to permit such female dog to go beyond the premises of such owner or keeper at any time she is in heat, unless such female dog is properly confined or under control.

Section 305. Confinement of dogs.

It shall be unlawful for the owner or keeper of any dog to fail to keep at all times such dog either:

- (1) confined within the premises of the owner;
- (2) firmly secured by means of a collar and chain or other device so that it cannot stray beyond the premises on which it is secured; or
- (3) under the reasonable control of some person, or when engaged in lawful hunting, exhibition or field training.

ARTICLE IV DUTIES OF OFFICERS

Section 401. Interference with police officer or State dog warden; duties of State dog warden; failure to produce license certificate.

(a) Police officers to perform duties.—It shall be unlawful for any police officer to fail or refuse to perform his duties under the provisions of this act and to refuse to assist in the enforcement of this law upon request of the secretary.

(b) State dog wardens and department employees to be considered police officers.—State dog wardens and employees of the department are considered to be police officers when enforcing any of the provisions of this act or regulations pursuant to this act.

(c) Illegal to interfere.—It shall be unlawful for any person to interfere with any officer or employee of the department in the enforcement of this law.

(d) Illegal to cut leash.—It shall be unlawful for any person to forcibly cut the leash or take a dog away from such officer having it in his possession when found running at large unaccompanied by the owner or keeper.

(e) Illegal to fail to produce license.—It shall be unlawful for any person to whom a license certificate has been issued to fail or refuse to produce the license certificate for such dog upon demand of any police officer or employee of the department.

ARTICLE V OFFENSES OF DOGS

Section 501. Killing dogs; complaints in trespass before district justice; vicious dogs; fines; bonds.

(a) Legal to kill certain dogs.—Any person may kill any dog which he sees in the act of pursuing or wounding any livestock, or wounding or killing poultry, wounding or killing other dogs or household pets, or attacking human beings, whether or not such a dog bears the license tag

required by the provisions of this act. There shall be no liability on such persons in damages or otherwise for such killing.

(b) Private nuisance.—Any dog that enters any field or enclosure where livestock or poultry are confined, provided that the enclosure is adequate for the purpose intended, shall constitute a private nuisance and the owner or tenant of such field, or their agent or servant, may detain such dog and turn it over to the local police authority or State dog warden. While so detained, the dog shall be treated in a humane manner.

(c) Licensed dogs not included.—Licensed dogs, when accompanied by their owner or handler, shall not be included under the provisions of this section, unless caught in the act of pursuing, wounding or killing any livestock, wounding or killing poultry, wounding or killing any dogs or household pets, or attacking human beings.

(d) Persons attacked by a dog may make a complaint in trespass.—Any person who has been attacked by a dog, or anyone for such person, may make a complaint in trespass before a district justice, charging the owner or keeper of such dog with harboring a vicious dog. A copy of such complaint shall be served upon the person so charged, in the same manner and subject to the same laws regulating the service of summons in civil suits, directing him to appear for a hearing of such complaint at a time fixed therein. If such person shall fail to appear at the time fixed, or if, upon a hearing of the parties and their witnesses, the district justice shall find the person so charged is the owner or keeper of the dog in question and that the dog has, viciously and without cause, attacked a human being when off the premises of the owner or keeper, such official shall order the said owner or keeper to henceforth keep such dog securely confined. It shall be unlawful for the owner or keeper of any vicious dog, after receiving such order, to permit such dog to run at large, or for the dog to appear on the public highways unless on leash. Any such dog found running at large may be killed by any constable, police officer or State dog warden without liability for damages for such killing. Any owner or keeper who does not keep a vicious dog confined shall, upon summary conviction, be sentenced to pay a fine of not less than \$100 and not more than \$500. The district justice shall also require the owner or keeper of the vicious dog to post bond with sufficient surety in the amount of \$2,000 to insure payment of damages or injuries caused by the vicious dog.

Section 502. Dog bites; detention and isolation of dogs.

(a) Confinement.—Any dog which bites or attacks a human being shall be confined in quarters approved by a designated employee of the Department of Health, a State dog warden or employee of the Department of Agriculture, an animal control officer or a police officer. Such dog may be detained and isolated in an approved kennel or at the dog owner's property. Where such dog is detained is at the discretion of the investigating officer. All dogs so detained must be isolated for a minimum of ten days. Any costs incurred in the detaining and isolation of such dog shall be paid by the offending dog's owner. When the dog's

owner is not known, the Commonwealth is responsible for all reasonable costs for holding and detaining such dog.

(b) Bite victims.—The investigating officer shall be responsible for notifying the bite victim of the medical results of the offending dog's confinement. Any cost to the victim for medical treatment resulting from an attacking or biting dog must be paid fully by the owner of such dog. The Commonwealth shall not be liable for medical treatment costs to the victim.

(c) Exception.—When a dog that bites or attacks a human being is a guide dog for the blind, a hearing dog for the deaf, an aid dog for the handicapped or a police work dog in the performance of duties, said dog need not be confined if it is under the active supervision of an accredited veterinarian.

ARTICLE VI INJURY TO DOGS

Section 601. Theft; poison; abandonment.

(a) Dogs to be personal property.—All dogs are hereby declared to be personal property and subjects of theft. Except as provided in sections 301, 302, 303, 501 and 704 and in the act of June 3, 1937 (P.L.1225, No.316), known as "The Game Law," it shall be unlawful for any person, except a police officer, State dog warden or accredited veterinarian to kill, injure, or to attempt to kill or injure, any dog.

(b) Poison illegal.—It shall be unlawful for a person to place any poison or harmful substance of any description in any place, on his own premises or elsewhere, where it may be easily found and eaten by dogs.

(c) Abandonment illegal.—It shall be unlawful for any person to abandon or attempt to abandon any dog within the Commonwealth. Anyone convicted of abandoning or attempting to abandon any dog within the Commonwealth will pay a fine of \$300 to \$1,000, plus costs.

Section 602. Dogs used for law enforcement.

(a) Illegal to taunt law enforcement dogs.—It shall be unlawful for any person to willfully and maliciously taunt, torment, tease, beat, kick or strike any dog used by any municipal or State police department or agency in the performance of the functions or duties of such department or agency or to interfere with or meddle with any such dog used by the department or agency or any member thereof in the performance of the functions or duties of the department or agency or of such officer or member.

(b) Illegal to torture certain dogs.—It shall be unlawful for any person to willfully or maliciously torture, mutilate, injure, disable, poison or kill any dog used by any municipal or State police department or agency in the performance of the functions or duties of the department or agency or to interfere with or meddle with any such dog used by the department or agency or any member thereof in the performance of any of the functions or duties of the department or agency or of such officer or member. Any person who violates any of the provisions of this section is guilty of a summary offense.

(c) Quarantine of certain dogs not required.—Quarantine of dogs as required by law shall not apply to dogs owned by any municipal or State police department or agency when such dogs are under the direct supervision and care of a police officer and subject to routine veterinary care.

ARTICLE VII DOG CAUSED DAMAGES

Section 701. Damages; complaints; examination of claims; liability; quarantines.

Whenever any person sustains any loss by dogs to livestock or poultry or to game birds raised in captivity, and while confined within an enclosure, or if any person sustains loss of livestock from rabies, or if any livestock or poultry or game bird raised in captivity, and while confined within an enclosure, is necessarily destroyed because of having been bitten by a dog, except when such loss, destruction or damage, with the exception of loss by rabies, shall have been caused by a dog harbored by the owner of such livestock or poultry or domestic game bird, such person or his agent or attorney may, immediately after the damage was done, complain to a State dog warden or employee of the department and may make application to the department for reimbursement of such loss or damage. Such complaint shall be in writing, shall be signed by the person making such complaint, and shall state when, where and how such damage was done, and by whose dog or dogs, if known, or when the animal died from rabies or was killed because of rabies. Claims covering damage due to rabies shall be made immediately following the death of the animal, and shall be supported by a certificate from a licensed and duly qualified veterinarian and a report from any laboratory approved by the department, to the effect that such animal was affected with rabies. It shall not be necessary to prove that an animal dying from or killed because of rabies was actually bitten by a dog. The presumption shall exist that such animal was so bitten. Upon receipt of such notice, the State dog warden shall at once examine the place where the alleged loss or damage was sustained and the livestock or poultry or domestic game bird injured or killed, or in case of rabies where it died or was killed. The State dog warden may examine under oath or affirmation any witness called before him. After making diligent inquiry in relation to such claim, such investigating officer shall determine whether any damage has been sustained and the amount thereof, and, if possible, who was the owner of the dog or dogs by which such damage was done. After making diligent inquiry in relation to such claim, such appraiser shall determine whether any damage has been sustained and the amount thereof, and, if possible, who was the owner of the dog or dogs by which such damage was done. If the owner of the dog or the owner of the livestock or poultry does not agree as to the amount of damage allowed by the appraiser, the owner requesting the appraisal and the appraiser may appoint a disinterested qualified citizen to assist in determining the amount of damage sustained. For such services, the said disinterested cit-

izens shall receive appropriate compensation which shall be paid by the owner requesting the appraisal. Any owner or keeper of such dog or dogs, except in the case of rabies, shall be liable to the Commonwealth as hereinafter provided. There shall be a maximum allowable claim loss on each occurrence of \$10,000 per animal; however, in no instance shall the payment exceed 90% of the appraised value. The secretary shall promulgate rules and regulations to enforce the provisions of this section. All claims shall be paid from the Dog Law Restricted Account.

Section 702. Quarantines due to damages.

When the inhabitants of any city, borough, town or township, or any part thereof, have suffered an excessive amount of damage by dogs to livestock or poultry or domestic game birds, a petition may be presented to the secretary, signed by 20 or more of such residents who are owners of livestock or poultry or domestic game birds, alleging such excessive damage and requesting that a quarantine be placed on all dogs within the limits of such city, borough, town or township, or such part thereof. Upon receipt of such petition, the secretary may, through his State dog wardens, have an investigation made of the facts alleged therein and, if convinced that condition in such city, borough, town or township, or such designated area, demand such stringent measures, he may establish a dog control quarantine therein. When such quarantine is established, at least ten notices thereof shall be posted through the area affected thereby and notice thereof shall also be published in at least one issue of a newspaper of general circulation throughout such city, borough, town or township. It shall be unlawful for any person, residing in the area affected by such quarantine, to permit a dog, owned or harbored by him to run at large in such quarantined area, or to leave the premises where it is kept, unless accompanied by and under the control of himself or a handler. Any police officer or State dog warden may kill any dog running at large in a quarantined area, in violation of such quarantine, without any liability for damages for such killing.

Section 703. Payments of claims out of Dog Law Restricted Account; rights against dog owners inuring to the Commonwealth.

The owner of any dog or dogs known to have caused any damage to livestock, poultry or domestic game birds shall be liable for all damages and costs. If the owner cannot be found or is unknown, then the secretary shall issue a requisition for the payment of the amount of the allowable claim. All such payments shall be from funds in the Dog Law Restricted Account. No payment shall be made for any item which has already been paid by the claimant's insurance carrier. The claimant shall certify to the department that he has not received payment for any damages under section 701 by any person. Upon payment by the State of damages under section 701, the rights of the owner of such livestock, poultry or domestic game bird against the owner of the dog or dogs causing the damages shall inure to the benefit of the Commonwealth.

Section 704. Killing of dogs causing damages.

If the identity of the owner of the dog or dogs has been established under sections 701 and 703, the secretary may notify the owner or keeper of such dog or dogs to immediately kill it or them. It shall be unlawful and a violation of this act for the owner or keeper, after notification by the secretary, to allow to leave or to remove such dog or dogs from the premises, while they are alive, except a State dog warden to a veterinarian or animal shelter for euthanasia purposes. The killing of such dogs does not remove the liability of the owner for damages caused by the dog or dogs. Upon failure, however, of such owner to comply with such order within a period of ten days, the secretary may authorize the killing of such dog or dogs wherever found.

Section 705. Harboring unlicensed dogs; forfeiture of rights of reimbursement.

Any person who owns or harbors an unlicensed dog required to be licensed under this act, shall forfeit any right to be reimbursed by the department for any damages to his livestock, poultry or domestic game birds by dogs.

ARTICLE VIII STATEMENTS AND PROOFS

Section 801. False statements.

It is unlawful for any person knowingly to make any false statement or to conceal any fact required to be disclosed under any of the provisions of this act.

Section 802. Burdens of proof.

In any proceeding under this act, the burden of proof of the fact that a dog has been licensed, or has been imported for breeding, trial, or show purposes, or that a dog is under the required licensed age of six months as hereinbefore provided, shall be on the owner of such dog. Any dog not bearing a license tag shall prima facie be deemed to be unlicensed. It is unlawful for any person dealing in and with dogs, to use a false or fictitious name unless such name is registered with the Commonwealth.

ARTICLE IX ENFORCEMENT AND PENALTIES

Section 901. Enforcement of this act by the Secretary of Agriculture; provisions for inspections.

(a) General rule.—The secretary, through State dog wardens, employees of the department and police officers, shall be charged with the general enforcement of this law. The secretary may employ all proper means for the enforcement of this act and may enter into agreements with local agencies and organizations for the purpose of dog control. State dog wardens and employees of the department are hereby authorized to enter upon the premises of any persons for the purpose of investigation upon displaying his badge of identification furnished by the department.

(b) Training for dog wardens.—The secretary shall establish training requirements for dog wardens which shall include dog handling and humane capture, preliminary recognition of dog pathology, knowledge of proper dog sanitation and shelter and dog law enforcement.

(c) Advisory board.—The secretary shall appoint a Dog Law Advisory Board to advise him in the administration of this act. The board shall consist of one representative from each of the following: Pennsylvania Veterinarian Medical Association, Federation of Humane Societies, Sportsmen's Association, dog clubs, animal research establishments, dog dealers, Pennsylvania Farmers Association, State Grange, lamb and wool growers and poultry farmers associations. The board shall be chaired by the secretary or his designee and shall convene when called by the secretary.

Section 902. Rules and regulations.

The secretary, after due notice and a public hearing, may promulgate rules and regulations to carry out the provisions and intent of this act.

Section 903. Violations.

Unless heretofore provided, any person found in violation of any provision of Article II through Article VIII of this act shall be guilty of a summary offense for the first and second violation and for a third and subsequent violation shall be guilty of a misdemeanor of the third degree.

Section 904. Tattoos altered.

It shall be unlawful to change or alter any tattoo. Any person convicted of defacing or altering any tattoo shall be guilty of a summary offense and upon conviction thereof shall be sentenced to pay a fine of \$300 or to imprisonment for not less than 90 days, or both. A bill of sale shall accompany all tattooed dogs when sold.

Section 905. Disposition of fines and penalties.

If a prosecution pursuant to this act is initiated by a State dog warden, employee of the department or State Police officer, all fines forfeited, recognizances and other forfeitures imposed, lost or forfeited under this act shall be payable through the Department of Agriculture into the State Treasury for credit to the Dog Law Restricted Account. If a prosecution pursuant to this act is initiated by a local police officer or animal control officer, all fines forfeited, recognizances and other forfeitures imposed, lost or forfeited under this act shall be payable to the political subdivision which employs such local police officer or animal control officer.

ARTICLE X DISPOSITION AND APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS

Section 1001. Dog Law Restricted Account; disposition and appropriation of funds accruing under the provisions of this act.

(a) Dog Law Restricted Account created.—All moneys paid into the State Treasury under the provisions of this act shall be paid into a restricted account hereby created and to be known as the Dog Law Restricted Account.

(b) Appropriation.—As much as may be necessary of such moneys in the Dog Law Restricted Account are hereby appropriated to pay:

(1) all salaries of the employees of the department in administering their duties under this act;

(2) all expenses of the secretary and the department in administering their duties under this act;

(3) all payments of all allowable damage claims pursuant to sections 701, 702 and 703, and the maintenance of a \$100,000 indemnity fund;

(4) all payments to counties pursuant to section 1002(a); and

(5) all payments from surplus moneys declared to be available by the secretary pursuant to section 1002(b).

(c) Subsidized services.—No funds credited to the restricted account created by this section shall be used for government subsidized veterinary services.

Section 1002. County dog law programs.

(a) Dog control facilities.—Any county except counties of the first class or any incorporated humane organization may submit requests for funding to establish and maintain dog control facilities or other functions of dog control within the county to complement the Commonwealth dog law enforcement program.

(b) Surplus funds.—The secretary may declare that there is a surplus of money in the Dog Law Restricted Account. The secretary may authorize additional payments to the counties, except to counties of the first class, and to incorporated humane organizations from any amount declared to be surplus. Such payments shall be based on the secretary's evaluation pursuant to rules and regulations promulgated under this act.

ARTICLE XI LIABILITY OF THE COMMONWEALTH

Section 1101. Liability of the State.

Nothing in this act shall be construed to prevent the owner of a licensed dog from recovering by action at law the value of any dog which has been illegally killed by any person, provided the Commonwealth shall be liable to the owner of any legally licensed dog, for the value thereof, if illegally killed by any police officer or employee of the Commonwealth and the Commonwealth may thereupon recover the amount so paid to such owner from the police officer or employee of the Commonwealth doing the illegal killing, by an action at law. Whenever the Commonwealth shall be liable for any killing, the value of said dog shall be ascertained in the same manner as provided in section 701, for assessing the damage done to livestock by dogs.

ARTICLE XII
MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

Section 1201. Applicability to cities of the first class, second class and second class A.

Insofar as this act provides for the individual licensing of dogs and the payment of damages for livestock or poultry injured by dogs or for licensed dogs illegally killed, it shall not apply to cities of the first class, second class and second class A. Such individual dog licensing and payment of damages in cities of the first class, second class and second class A shall continue to be carried on under the provisions of existing laws.

Section 1202. Abandonment of animals by owner.

(a) Disposal.—Any animal placed in the custody of a licensed doctor of veterinary medicine for treatment, boarding, or other care which shall be abandoned by its owner or his agent for a period of more than ten days after written notice by registered return receipt mail is given to the owner or his agent at his last known address and return receipt is received by the doctor, may be turned over to the custody of the nearest Humane Society or dog pound in the area for disposal after 48 hours as such custodian may deem proper. During such 48-hour period, the animal may be released only to the owner or his agent. If the owner claims the animal, he shall be liable for room and board charges for the animal during the abandonment period.

(b) Notice.—The giving of notice to the owner, or the agent of the owner, of such animal by the licensed doctor of veterinary medicine as provided in subsection (a) and receipt of return receipt by the doctor, which he shall retain for 12 days, shall relieve the doctor of veterinary medicine, and any custodian to whom such animal may be given, of any further liability for disposal. It is further provided that such procedure by the licensed doctor of veterinary medicine shall not constitute grounds for disciplinary procedure under this act.

(c) Definition.—For the purpose of this section, the term “abandonment” means to forsake entirely or to neglect or refuse to provide or perform the legal obligations for the care and support of an animal by its owner or his agent. Such abandonment shall constitute relinquishment of all rights and claims by the owner to such animal.

Section 1203. Severability.

The provisions of this act shall be severable, and, if any of its provisions shall be held to be unconstitutional, the decision of the court shall not affect or impair any of the remaining provisions of this act. It is hereby declared as a legislative intent that this act would not have been adopted had such unconstitutional provisions been included therein.

Section 1204. Acts not affected.

This act does not repeal or in any way affect any of the provisions of the following acts:

(1) The act of July 22, 1913 (P.L.928, No.441), entitled "An act relating to domestic animals; defining domestic animals so as to include poultry; providing methods of improving the quality thereof, and of preventing, controlling, and eradicating diseases thereof; imposing certain duties upon practitioners of veterinary medicine in Pennsylvania; regulating the manufacture, use and sale of tuberculin, mallein and other biological products for use with domestic animals; defining the powers and duties of the State Livestock Sanitary Board, and the officers and employees thereof; fixing the compensation of the Deputy State Veterinarian; and providing penalties for the violation of this act."

(2) The act of June 3, 1937 (P.L.1225, No.316), known as "The Game Law."

Section 1205. Repealer.

(a) The act of December 22, 1965 (P.L.1124, No.437), known as the "Dog Law of 1965," is repealed.

(b) Section 34, act of December 27, 1974 (P.L.995, No.326), known as the "Veterinary Medicine Practice Act," is repealed.

Section 1206. Effective date.

This act shall take effect on January 1, 1983.

APPROVED—The 7th day of December, A. D. 1982.

DICK THORNBURGH