

(b) In addition to the pension which is authorized to be paid from the firemen's pension fund by this act and notwithstanding the limitations therein placed upon such pensions and upon contributions, every contributor who shall become entitled to the pension may also be entitled to the payment of a "service increment" as hereinafter provided.

A "service increment" may be provided by the cities to be maintained, in part, by a monthly charge against each member. The monthly charge against each member shall be determined in accordance with and following an actuarial investigation into the mortality and service experience of the members, and on the basis of such investigation and evaluation, the cities may certify the rates of deduction from salary necessary to pay the "service increments" authorized under the provisions of this act.

APPROVED—The 14th day of August, A. D. 1959.

DAVID L. LAWRENCE

No. 243

AN ACT

Amending the act of June 24, 1939 (P. L. 872), entitled "An act to consolidate, amend and revise the penal laws of the Commonwealth," authorizing the cutting or cropping of dogs' ears by veterinarians.

The Penal Code.

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

Section 947, act of June 24, 1939, P. L. 872, amended.

Section 1. Section 947, act of June 24, 1939 (P. L. 872), known as "The Penal Code," is amended to read:

Section 947. Cropping Ears of Dogs; Prima Facie Evidence of Violation.—Whoever crops or cuts off, or causes or procures to be cropped or cut off, the whole, or part of the ear or ears of a dog, [unless such person has in his or her possession a certificate of a duly licensed veterinarian, stating that such cropping or cutting is necessary for the health of the dog,] or shows or exhibits or procures the showing or exhibition of any dog whose ear is or ears are cropped or cut off, in whole or in part, unless the person showing such dog has in his possession either a certificate of a [duly licensed] veterinarian stating that such cropping was [necessary for the health of the dog,] *done by the veterinarian* or a certificate of registration from a county treasurer, showing that such dog was cut or cropped before this section became effective, shall, upon conviction thereof in a summary pro-

ceeding, be sentenced to pay a fine not exceeding twenty-five dollars (\$25), and costs of the proceedings, or undergo imprisonment for not more than thirty (30) days, and, for a second or subsequent offense, shall be sentenced to pay a fine not exceeding one hundred dollars (\$100), or undergo imprisonment for not more than sixty (60) days.

The provisions of this section shall not prevent a veterinarian from cutting or cropping the whole or part of the ear or ears of a dog when such dog is anesthetized, and shall not prevent any person from causing or procuring such cutting or cropping of a dog's ear or ears by a veterinarian.

The possession by any person of a dog with an ear or ears cut off or cropped and with the wound resulting therefrom unhealed, or any such dog being found in the charge or custody of any person or confined upon the premises owned by or under the control of any person, shall be prima facie evidence of a violation of this section by such person, except as provided for in this section.

The owner of any dog whose ear or ears have been cut off or cropped before this section became effective may, if a resident of this Commonwealth, register such dog with the treasurer of the county where he resides, and if a nonresident of this Commonwealth, with the treasurer of any county of this Commonwealth, by certifying, under oath, that the ear or ears of such dog were cut or cropped before this section became effective, and the payment of a fee of one dollar (\$1) into the county treasury. The said treasurer shall thereupon issue to such person a certificate showing such dog to be *a lawfully cropped dog.

APPROVED—The 14th day of August, A. D. 1959.

DAVID L. LAWRENCE

No. 244

AN ACT

Amending the act of May 22, 1933 (P. L. 853), entitled "An act relating to taxation; designating the subjects, property and persons subject to and exempt from taxation for all local purposes; providing for and regulating the assessment and valuation of persons, property and subjects of taxation for county purposes, and for the use of those municipal and quasi-municipal corporations which levy their taxes on county assessments and valuations; amending, revising and consolidating the law relating thereto; and repealing existing laws," exempting certain property from taxation.

* "a" omitted in original.