



General Assembly

February Session, 2010

Raised Bill No. 274

LCO No. 1554

01554_____ENV

Referred to Committee on Environment

Introduced by:

(ENV)

AN ACT PROHIBITING THE UNREASONABLE CONFINEMENT AND TETHERING OF DOGS.

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

Section 1. Section 22-350a of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2010*):

Any person who confines or tethers a dog [**for an unreasonable period of time**] in an unreasonable manner shall be fined [**not more than**] one hundred dollars for the first offense, [**not less than one**] two hundred dollars [**or more than two hundred fifty dollars**] for a second offense, and not less than two hundred fifty dollars or more than five hundred dollars for any subsequent offense. Each day that a dog is confined or tethered in an unreasonable manner shall constitute a separate offense. For purposes of this section: (1) A person confines a dog in an unreasonable manner if: (A) For one dog, such person places such dog in an enclosure that consists of less than one hundred square feet of space that is the primary location where such dog eats, drinks, sleeps and eliminates waste, or (B) for two or more dogs, such person places two dogs in an enclosure that consists of less than one hundred fifty square feet of space, and less than fifty additional square feet of space for each additional dog over two dogs, that is the primary location where such dogs eat, drink, sleep and eliminate waste; (2) a person tethers a dog in an unreasonable manner if such person attaches an unattended dog to a stationary object, including, but not limited to, a tree, dog house or fence, or to a moveable device, including, but not limited to, a pulley or trolley, by any means other than a properly fitted collar and leash, harness or lightweight cable in a manner that: (A) Obstructs such dog's access to food, water or shelter, (B) prevents such dog from lying, sitting or standing without such collar and leash, harness or lightweight cable becoming taut, or (C) results, or reasonably could result, in the injury, strangulation or entanglement of such dog; (3) a dog is unattended if such dog is not within the visual range of the owner of such dog or the person responsible for such dog, or

if such owner or person is not on the subject premises; and (4) the space requirements described in subdivision (1) of this section shall not be construed to apply to: (A) Any enclosure used to confine a dog that is six months of age or younger, (B) any kennel licensed pursuant to section 22-342, (C) any commercial kennel, pet shop, training facility or grooming facility licensed pursuant to section 22-344, (D) any facility utilized for the temporary boarding of any dog that is in need of a new owner, or (E) any pound, as defined in section 22-380e.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>October 1, 2010</i>	22-350a

Statement of Purpose:

To define what it means to unreasonably confine or tether a dog.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]