

SENATE, No. 618

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

219th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2020 SESSION

Sponsored by:

Senator DECLAN J. O'SCANLON, JR.

District 13 (Monmouth)

SYNOPSIS

Criminalizes impounding cat or dog in shelter, pound, or kennel without consent of other party.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel.



1 **AN ACT** concerning certain offenses and supplementing chapter 33
2 of Title 2C of the New Jersey Statutes.

3

4 **BE IT ENACTED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*
5 *of New Jersey:*

6

7 1. It shall be a disorderly persons offense for a person to
8 surrender or release a cat or dog into the custody of, and impound
9 with, a shelter, pound, or kennel operating as a shelter or pound,
10 pending any matrimonial action or action for dissolution of a civil
11 union brought in this State or elsewhere, or after judgment of
12 divorce or dissolution or maintenance, whether obtained in this
13 State or elsewhere, without the consent of the other party.

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15 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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STATEMENT

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20 This bill criminalizes the surrendering or releasing of a cat or
21 dog into the custody of, and impound with, a shelter, pound, or
22 kennel in divorce or dissolution of a civil union matters, without the
23 consent of the other party.

24

25 The bill provides that it is a disorderly persons offense for a
26 person to surrender or release a cat or dog in the custody of and
27 impounded with a shelter, pound, or kennel operating as a shelter or
28 pound, pending any matrimonial action or action for dissolution of a
29 civil union brought in this State or elsewhere, or after judgment of
30 divorce or dissolution or maintenance, whether obtained in this
31 State or elsewhere, without the consent of the other party. A
32 disorderly persons offense is punishable by a term of imprisonment
of up to six months in jail, up to a \$1,000 fine, or both.