

SENATE, No. 1056

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED JANUARY 30, 2020

Sponsored by:

Senator JAMES W. HOLZAPFEL

District 10 (Ocean)

SYNOPSIS

Waives certain adoption fees for veterans.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



1 **AN ACT** concerning adoption fees for veterans and supplementing
2 P.L.1941 c.151 (4:19-15.1 et seq.).

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

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7 1. a. No kennel, shelter, or pound, that is owned and operated
8 by a local government unit, shall charge a fee to a veteran to adopt a
9 dog or cat.

10 b. The Secretary of Agriculture shall prescribe by rule or
11 regulation the types of evidence that may be used to qualify a
12 person for the benefit established pursuant to this section.

13 c. The owner or operator of a kennel, shelter, or pound may
14 review adoption fees and, if appropriate, adjust adoption fees to
15 offset any revenue losses associated with the waiver of the adoption
16 fee for veterans pursuant to subsection a. of this section.

17 d. As used in this section:

18 “Adoption fee” means any costs related to a veterinary wellness
19 visit and exam, spaying or neutering, distemper vaccination,
20 bordetella vaccination, rabies vaccination, deworming medication,
21 flea and tick treatment, canine heartworm test, feline leukemia test,
22 spay and neuter surgery, follow-up examination, collar and an
23 identification tag, and administrative charges.

24 “Kennel ” means a kennel as defined in section 1 of P.L.1941,
25 c.151 (C.4:19-15.1).

26 “Pound” means a pound as defined in section 1 of P.L.1941,
27 c.151 (C.4:19-15.1).

28 “Shelter” means a shelter as defined in section 1 of P.L.1941,
29 c.151 (C.4:19-15.1).

30 “Veteran” means any resident of the State who has been
31 honorably discharged or released under honorable circumstances
32 from active military service in any of the Armed Forces of the
33 United States, or a reserve component thereof, or any honorably
34 discharged member of the American Merchant Marine who served
35 during World War II and is declared by the United States
36 Department of Defense to be eligible for federal veterans' benefits
37 and any officer, soldier, sailor, marine, airman, nurse or army field
38 clerk, who has served in the active military or naval service of the
39 United States and has or shall be discharged or released therefrom
40 under conditions other than dishonorable.

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42 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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This bill would provide that a veteran may adopt a dog or cat without paying an adoption fee from a licensed kennel, shelter, or pound that is owned and operated by a local government unit.

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The bill authorizes the owner or operator of a kennel, shelter, or pound to review and adjust the adoption fee to offset any revenue losses associated with the waiver of the adoption fee for veterans.

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