

SENATE, No. 1980

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED FEBRUARY 25, 2020

Sponsored by:

Senator LINDA R. GREENSTEIN

District 14 (Mercer and Middlesex)

SYNOPSIS

Permits certified animal control officer to enforce municipal animal ordinances; requires such officer to report person suspected of committing animal cruelty to municipal law enforcement officer.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



1 AN ACT concerning the duties of animal control officers, and
2 amending P.L.1983, c.525.

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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. Section 4 of P.L.1983, c.525 (C.4:19-15.16b) is amended to
8 read as follows:

9 4. The governing body of a municipality shall, within three
10 years of the effective date of P.L.1983, c.525, appoint a certified
11 animal control officer who shall be responsible for animal control
12 within the jurisdiction of the municipality and who shall enforce
13 and abide by the provisions of section 16 of P.L.1941, c.151
14 (C.4:19-15.16) and who may enforce municipal animal control
15 ordinances. The governing body shall not appoint a certified animal
16 control officer, shall not contract for animal control services with
17 any company that employs a certified animal control officer, and
18 shall revoke the appointment of a certified animal control officer,
19 who has been convicted of, or found civilly liable for, a violation of
20 any provision of chapter 22 of Title 4 of the Revised Statutes or
21 whose name is on the list or any revision thereto established and
22 provided by the Commissioner of Health pursuant to subsection c.
23 of section 3 of P.L.1983, c.525 (C.4:19-15.16a). The governing
24 body shall, within 30 days after receipt thereof, review any such list
25 or revision thereto received by the municipality and shall, within
26 that 30-day period, take action accordingly as required pursuant to
27 this section.

28 The governing body may authorize the certified animal control
29 officer to serve concurrently as a municipal humane law
30 enforcement officer pursuant to subsection c. of section 25 or
31 subsection e. of section 26 of P.L.2017, c.331 (C.4:22-14.1 or
32 C.4:22-14.2).

33 A certified animal control officer shall notify the municipal
34 humane law enforcement officer of any person the certified animal
35 control officer suspects has committed an animal cruelty offense
36 under any provision of chapter 19 or 22 of Title 4 of the Revised
37 Statutes.

38 (cf: P.L.2017, c.331, s.6)

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40 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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43 STATEMENT

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45 This bill would clarify that a certified animal control officer may

EXPLANATION – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets **[thus]** in the above bill is
not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

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- 1 enforce municipal animal control ordinances. The bill would also
- 2 require a certified animal control officer to notify the municipal
- 3 humane law enforcement officer of any person the certified animal
- 4 control officer suspects has committed an animal cruelty offense.