AN ACT

Amending the act of December 7, 1982 (P.L.784, No.225), entitled "An act relating to dogs, regulating the keeping of dogs; providing for the licensing of dogs and kennels; providing for the protection of dogs and the detention and destruction of dogs in certain cases; regulating the sale and transportation of dogs; declaring dogs to be personal property and the subject of theft; providing for the abandonment of animals; providing for the assessment of damages done to animals; providing for the payment of damages by the Commonwealth in certain cases and the liability of the owner or keeper of dogs for such damages; imposing powers and duties on certain State and local officers and employees; providing penalties; and creating a Dog Law Restricted Account," in licenses, tags and kennels, further providing for transfer of dog licenses or tags and other licensing requirements and for service dogs and dogs used by municipal or State Police departments.

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

Section 1. Sections 205 and 217(a) of the act of December 7, 1982 (P.L.784, No.225), known as the Dog Law, are amended to read:

Section 205. Transfer of dog licenses or tags; other licensing requirements.

(a) Transfer of dog license.--It is unlawful to transfer a
dog license or dog license tag issued for one dog to another dog, except as otherwise provided in this act. The following apply:

(1) Whenever the ownership or possession of any dog is permanently transferred from one person to another within the same county, the license of such dog may be likewise transferred, upon application to an agent AUTHORIZED under section 200(a). Such application including a county treasurer.

(2) An application under this section shall be accompanied by a bill of sale or an affidavit from the owner that ownership of the dog is to be transferred. The owner shall provide the owner's name, address, telephone number and other relevant contact information.

(3) A new dog license, or the transfer of a dog license already secured, is not required when the possession of a dog is temporarily transferred for the purpose of hunting game, or for breeding, boarding and training, trial or show, in this Commonwealth. The issuing agent

(4) The county treasurer shall charge and retain $1 for such the transfer application.

(b) Dog moved to another county.--Whenever any a dog licensed in one county is permanently moved to another county, an issuing agent the county treasurer of the county where the dog license was issued shall, upon the application of the owner or keeper of such the dog, certify such the dog license to an agent the county treasurer of the county to which the dog is moved. Such THE agent the county treasurer shall thereupon, and upon the payment of a fee of $1 for the use of the agent, county treasurer, issue a dog license and tag for
such the dog in the county to which it is moved.

(c) Owners of unlicensed dogs.--Any A person other than as exempt in section 206, becoming the owner of any a dog three months old or older, which has not already been licensed shall forthwith apply for and secure a license for such the dog under the provisions of this act.

Section 217. Service dogs and dogs used by municipal or State Police departments.

(a) Fee exemptions.--

(1) The provisions of this act relating to the payment of fees and other charges shall not apply to any person who uses a service dog for aid or any municipal or State Police department or agency using a dog in the performance of the functions or duties of such department or agency. License tags for service dogs and dogs used by any municipal or State agency in the performance of the functions or duties of such department or agency shall be issued without charge.

(i) A person who uses a service dog for aid.

(ii) A municipal or State Police department or
POLICE agency using a dog in the performance of the functions or duties of the department or agency.

(iii) A service dog used in the performance of services by a police department, fire department or sheriff's office or in the performance of rescue services or emergency medical services.

(2) A license tag for a dog described under paragraph
(1) shall be issued without charge.

(3) For purposes of paragraph (1)(iii), a letter on official letterhead from the respective police chief, fire chief, sheriff or director or authorized agent of the
department, agency or office providing the services, along
with evidence that the dog is a service dog, shall accompany
the application under section 201.

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Section 2. This act shall take effect in 60 days.