

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 1243 Session of 2009

INTRODUCED BY GALLOWAY, BARRAR, BEYER, BRENNAN, DIGIROLAMO, HARHAI, HENNESSEY, HORNAMAN, MELIO, MURPHY, MURT, MYERS, PALLONE, PASHINSKI, READSHAW, SANTARSIERO, SCAVELLO, SIPTROTH, YOUNGBLOOD AND J. TAYLOR, JUNE 3, 2009

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND RURAL AFFAIRS, JUNE 3, 2009

AN ACT

1 Amending the act of December 7, 1982 (P.L.784, No.225),  
2 entitled, as amended, "An act relating to dogs, regulating  
3 the keeping of dogs; providing for the licensing of dogs and  
4 kennels; providing for the protection of dogs and the  
5 detention and destruction of dogs in certain cases;  
6 regulating the sale and transportation of dogs; declaring  
7 dogs to be personal property and the subject of theft;  
8 providing for the abandonment of animals; providing for the  
9 assessment of damages done to animals; providing for payment  
10 of damages by the Commonwealth in certain cases and the  
11 liability of the owner or keeper of dogs for such damages;  
12 imposing powers and duties on certain State and local  
13 officers and employees; providing penalties; and creating a  
14 Dog Law Restricted Account," further providing for  
15 construction of article relating to dangerous dogs.

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

18 Section 1. Section 507-A(c) of the act of December 7, 1982  
19 (P.L.784, No.225), known as the Dog Law, added May 31, 1990  
20 (P.L.213, No.46), is amended to read:

21 Section 507-A. Construction of article.

22 \* \* \*

23 (c) Local ordinances.--[Those provisions of local ordinances

1 relating to dangerous dogs are hereby abrogated.] A local  
2 ordinance otherwise dealing with dogs may not prohibit or  
3 otherwise limit a specific breed of dog. This act shall not  
4 preclude the adoption of any local ordinance applicable to  
5 dangerous dogs provided that the local ordinance maintains all  
6 provisions set forth in this act and further provided that a  
7 local ordinance dealing with dogs may not prohibit or otherwise  
8 limit a specific breed of dog.

9 \* \* \*

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