

ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 15—ASSEMBLYMAN MANENDO

PREFILED DECEMBER 5, 2008

Referred to Committee on Natural Resources,  
Agriculture, and Mining

SUMMARY—Revises provisions governing sterilization requirements for dogs and cats. (BDR 50-203)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: No.  
Effect on the State: No.

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EXPLANATION – Matter in *bolded italics* is new; matter between brackets ~~omitted-material~~ is material to be omitted.

AN ACT relating to animals; requiring notice of any sterilization requirements for dogs and cats required by local ordinance to be posted in a public park and the office of each licensed veterinarian; requiring a retailer or dealer who sells a dog or cat to disclose to the purchaser any sterilization requirements for the animal required by local ordinance; providing that any local ordinance that requires the sterilization of dogs may not be enforced with respect to certain dogs; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

**Legislative Counsel’s Digest:**

1 Existing law governs the sterilization of pets that are released by various  
2 releasing agencies, including societies to prevent cruelty to animals, animal  
3 shelters, nonprofit entities that provide temporary shelter for pets and organizations  
4 that take into custody pets which have been abandoned, abused or neglected. (NRS  
5 574.600-574.660) **Section 1** of this bill requires each licensed veterinarian to post  
6 in his office written notice of any sterilization requirements for dogs or cats  
7 required by local ordinance. **Section 1** further requires a governmental entity with  
8 jurisdiction over a public park to post written notice in the park of any sterilization  
9 requirements for the animals required by local ordinance. **Sections 2 and 3** of this  
10 bill require a retailer or dealer who sells a dog or cat to disclose to the purchaser  
11 any sterilization requirements for the animal required by local ordinance. (NRS  
12 574.460, 574.470) A retailer or dealer who fails to comply with the disclosure  
13 requirements is subject to an administrative fine imposed by the Director of the  
14 State Department of Agriculture in an amount not to exceed \$250 for the first  
15 violation, \$500 for the second violation and \$1,000 for each subsequent violation.  
16 (NRS 574.485) **Section 3** also provides that any local ordinance which requires the  
17 sterilization of dogs may not be enforced with respect to a dog that is used



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18 primarily for hunting, purposes relating to farming or agriculture, breeding or  
19 drawing heavy loads, or as a service animal or service animal in training.

20 **Section 4** of this bill provides that a retailer, dealer or operator must not  
21 separate a dog or cat from its mother until it is 8 weeks of age or accustomed to  
22 taking food or nourishment other than by nursing, whichever is later.  
23 (NRS 574.500)

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THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, REPRESENTED IN  
SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

1 **Section 1.** Chapter 574 of NRS is hereby amended by adding  
2 thereto a new section to read as follows:

3 *1. A licensed veterinarian shall post written notice in a*  
4 *conspicuous place in his office of any sterilization requirements*  
5 *for dogs or cats required by local ordinance.*

6 *2. A governmental entity with jurisdiction over a public park*  
7 *in which dogs or cats are allowed shall post written notice in a*  
8 *conspicuous place in the park of any sterilization requirements for*  
9 *dogs or cats required by local ordinance.*

10 *3. As used in this section, "licensed veterinarian" has the*  
11 *meaning ascribed to it in NRS 638.007.*

12 **Sec. 2.** NRS 574.460 is hereby amended to read as follows:

13 574.460 1. A retailer or dealer shall, before selling a cat,  
14 provide the purchaser of the cat with a written statement that  
15 discloses:

16 (a) The name, address and telephone number of the retailer or  
17 dealer.

18 (b) The date the cat was born, if known.

19 (c) The name and address of the person from whom the retailer  
20 or dealer obtained the cat and, if the person holds a license issued by  
21 the United States Department of Agriculture, the person's federal  
22 identification number.

23 (d) The name and address of the breeder of the cat, if any, and, if  
24 the breeder holds a license issued by the United States Department of  
25 Agriculture, the breeder's federal identification number.

26 (e) The registration numbers, if any, of the cat's sire and dam  
27 with the appropriate breed registry or any health certifications from  
28 a health certification organization such as the Orthopedic  
29 Foundation for Animals or its successor organization, if any.

30 (f) A record of any immunizations administered to the cat before  
31 the time of sale, including the type of vaccine, date of administration  
32 and name and address of the veterinarian who prescribed the  
33 vaccine.

34 (g) *Any sterilization requirements for the cat required by local*  
35 *ordinance.*



1 (h) The medical history of the cat, including, without limitation:

2 (1) The date that a veterinarian examined and, if applicable,  
3 reexamined the cat pursuant to subsections 1 and 2 of NRS 574.450  
4 and determined that the cat did not have any illness, disease or other  
5 condition that is terminal or requires immediate hospitalization or  
6 immediate surgical intervention. For the purposes of this  
7 subparagraph, the presence of internal or external parasites does not  
8 constitute an illness, disease or other condition that is terminal or  
9 requires immediate hospitalization or immediate surgical  
10 intervention, unless the cat is clinically ill as a result of the parasite.

11 (2) Whether any treatment or medication has been  
12 administered by the veterinarian who examined or, if applicable,  
13 reexamined the cat pursuant to subsections 1 and 2 of NRS 574.450  
14 and if such treatment or medication was administered, a statement  
15 indicating on what date it was administered and for what illness,  
16 disease or condition.

17 (3) *The date on which the veterinarian sterilized the cat, if*  
18 *applicable.*

19 (4) The name and address of the veterinarian who performed  
20 the examinations , ~~for~~ reexaminations *or sterilization* or  
21 administered any treatments or medications.

22 ~~(h)~~ (i) That a copy of the veterinarian's evaluation of the health  
23 of the cat made pursuant to NRS 574.450 is available to the  
24 purchaser.

25 2. The written statement must be signed and dated by the  
26 retailer or dealer and contain a space for the purchaser to sign and  
27 date the statement as an attestation that he has read and understands  
28 the disclosures contained in the statement.

29 **Sec. 3.** NRS 574.470 is hereby amended to read as follows:

30 574.470 1. A retailer or dealer shall, before selling a dog,  
31 provide the purchaser of the dog with a written statement that  
32 discloses:

33 (a) The name, address and telephone number of the retailer or  
34 dealer.

35 (b) The date the dog was born, if known.

36 (c) The name and address of the person from whom the retailer  
37 or dealer obtained the dog and, if the person holds a license issued  
38 by the United States Department of Agriculture, the person's federal  
39 identification number.

40 (d) The name and address of the breeder of the dog, if any, and,  
41 if the breeder holds a license issued by the United States Department  
42 of Agriculture, the breeder's federal identification number.

43 (e) The registration numbers, if any, of the dog's sire and dam  
44 with the appropriate breed registry or any health certificates from a



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1 health certification organization such as the Orthopedic Foundation  
2 for Animals or its successor organization, if any.

3 (f) A record of any immunizations administered to the dog  
4 before the time of sale, including the type of vaccine, date of  
5 administration and name and address of the veterinarian who  
6 prescribed the vaccine.

7 (g) *Any sterilization requirements for the dog required by local  
8 ordinance.*

9 (h) The medical history of the dog, including, without  
10 limitation:

11 (1) The date that a veterinarian examined and, if applicable,  
12 reexamined the dog pursuant to subsections 1 and 2 of NRS 574.450  
13 and determined that the dog did not have any illness, disease or  
14 other condition that is terminal or requires immediate hospitalization  
15 or immediate surgical intervention. For the purposes of this  
16 subparagraph, the presence of internal or external parasites does not  
17 constitute an illness, disease or other condition that is terminal or  
18 requires immediate hospitalization or immediate surgical  
19 intervention, unless the dog is clinically ill as a result of the parasite.

20 (2) Whether any treatment or medication has been  
21 administered by the veterinarian who examined or, if applicable,  
22 reexamined the dog pursuant to subsections 1 and 2 of NRS 574.450  
23 and, if such treatment or medication was administered, a statement  
24 indicating on what date it was administered and for what illness,  
25 disease or condition.

26 (3) *The date on which the veterinarian sterilized the dog, if  
27 applicable.*

28 (4) The name and address of the veterinarian who performed  
29 the examinations , ~~for~~ reexaminations *or sterilization* or  
30 administered any treatments or medications.

31 ~~(h)~~ (i) That a copy of the veterinarian's evaluation of the health  
32 of the dog performed pursuant to NRS 574.450 is available to the  
33 purchaser.

34 2. The written statement must be signed and dated by the  
35 retailer or dealer and contain a space for the purchaser to sign and  
36 date the statement as an attestation that he has read and understands  
37 the disclosures contained in the statement.

38 3. *Any local ordinance that requires the sterilization of dogs  
39 may not be enforced with respect to a dog that is used primarily:*

40 (a) *For hunting;*

41 (b) *For purposes relating to farming or agriculture;*

42 (c) *For breeding;*

43 (d) *For drawing heavy loads; or*

44 (e) *As a service animal or a service animal in training, as  
45 those terms are defined in NRS 426.097 and 426.099, respectively.*



1       **Sec. 4.** NRS 574.500 is hereby amended to read as follows:  
2       574.500 A retailer, dealer or operator shall not separate a dog  
3 or cat from its mother until it is *8 weeks of age or* accustomed to  
4 taking food or nourishment other than by nursing ~~it~~, *whichever is*  
5 *later.*

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