

# HOUSE BILL No. 5639

April 18, 2000, Introduced by Reps. Ruth Johnson, Rocca, Julian, Pappageorge, Birkholz, Hart, Howell, Garcia and Rick Johnson and referred to the Committee on Local Government and Urban Policy.

A bill to amend 1919 PA 339, entitled  
"Dog law of 1919,"  
by amending sections 6, 8, 9, and 14 (MCL 287.266, 287.268,  
287.269, and 287.274), as amended by 1998 PA 390.

**THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:**

1       Sec. 6. (1) The owner of a dog that is 4 or more months old  
2 shall apply to the treasurer of the county or, except as provided  
3 in section 14, the treasurer of the township or city where the  
4 owner resides, or to the treasurer's authorized agent, for a  
5 license for each dog owned or kept by him or her.

6       (2) Unless the county board of commissioners adopts a reso-  
7 lution under subsection (3), the owner shall apply for a license  
8 annually on or before March 1.

9       (3) The county board of commissioners of a county may adopt  
10 a resolution during the 60-day period before the beginning of the

1 county's fiscal year providing when the owner of a dog that is  
2 required to be licensed under subsection (1) must apply for a  
3 license. Before adopting the resolution, the county board of  
4 commissioners shall obtain the county treasurer's written  
5 approval of the resolution. Subject to subsection (4), the reso-  
6 lution shall provide for 1 of the following:

7 (a) That the owner apply for a license by March 1 every year  
8 or every third year, at the owner's option.

9 (B) THAT THE OWNER APPLY FOR A LICENSE BY JUNE 1 EVERY  
10 YEAR.

11 (C) THAT THE OWNER APPLY FOR A LICENSE BY JUNE 1 EVERY YEAR  
12 OR EVERY THIRD YEAR, AT THE OWNER'S OPTION.

13 (D) ~~-(b)-~~ That the owner apply for a license by the last day  
14 of the month of the dog's current rabies vaccination, every  
15 year.

16 (E) ~~-(c)-~~ That the owner apply for a license by the last day  
17 of the month of the dog's current rabies vaccination, ~~or of the~~  
18 ~~anniversary of the dog's current rabies vaccination,~~ every third  
19 year.

20 (F) ~~-(d)-~~ That the owner apply for a license by 1 of the  
21 following, at the owner's option:

22 (i) The last day of the month of the dog's current rabies  
23 vaccination every year.

24 (ii) The last day of the month of the dog's current rabies  
25 vaccination, ~~or of the anniversary of the dog's current rabies~~  
26 ~~vaccination,~~ every third year.

1       (4) A resolution adopted under subsection (3) shall include  
2 necessary provisions for conversion to a new licensing schedule.  
3 The resolution may extend the effective period of outstanding  
4 licenses but shall not shorten the effective period of outstand-  
5 ing licenses or prorate license fees.

6       (5) The application shall state the breed, sex, age, color,  
7 and markings of the dog, and the name and address of the last  
8 previous owner. The application for a license shall be accom-  
9 panied by a valid certificate of a current vaccination for  
10 rabies, with a vaccine licensed by the United States department  
11 of agriculture, signed by an accredited veterinarian. The cer-  
12 tificate for vaccination for rabies shall state the month and  
13 year of expiration for the rabies vaccination, in the  
14 veterinarian's opinion. A license shall not be issued under sub-  
15 section ~~(3)(b), (c), or (d)~~ (3)(D), (E), OR (F) if the dog's  
16 current rabies vaccination will expire more than 1 month before  
17 the date on which that license would expire. When applying for a  
18 license, the owner shall pay the license fee provided for in the  
19 county budget. The county board of commissioners may set license  
20 fees in the county budget at a level sufficient to pay all the  
21 county's expenses of administering this act as it pertains to  
22 dogs. For a spayed or neutered dog, the license fee, if any,  
23 shall be set lower than the license fee for a dog that is not  
24 spayed or neutered. In addition, the license fee may be set  
25 higher for a delinquent application than for a timely  
26 application.

**HB 5639, As Passed Senate, December 14, 2000**

House Bill No. 5639 as amended October 3, 2000

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1       (6) IF A DOG IS LICENSED BEFORE IT BECOMES 5 MONTHS OLD AND  
2 IS SUBSEQUENTLY SPAYED OR NEUTERED BEFORE IT BECOMES 7 MONTHS  
3 OLD, THE OWNER OF THE DOG MAY EXCHANGE THE LICENSE FOR A LICENSE  
4 FOR A SPAYED OR NEUTERED DOG AND RECEIVE A REFUND FOR THE DIFFER-  
5 ENCE IN THE COST OF THE LICENSES. THE OWNER SHALL EXCHANGE THE  
6 LICENSE BEFORE THE DOG BECOMES 7 MONTHS OLD.

7       (7) SUBSECTION (6) APPLIES IN A COUNTY ONLY IF THE COUNTY  
8 BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS ADOPTS A RESOLUTION TO THAT EFFECT DURING  
9 THE 60-DAY PERIOD BEFORE THE BEGINNING OF THE COUNTY'S FISCAL  
10 YEAR. BEFORE ADOPTING THE RESOLUTION, THE COUNTY BOARD OF COM-  
11 MISSIONERS SHALL OBTAIN THE COUNTY TREASURER'S WRITTEN APPROVAL  
12 OF THE RESOLUTION.

13       (8) ~~-(6)-~~ The owner of a dog that is required to be licensed  
14 under this section shall keep the dog currently vaccinated  
15 against rabies by an accredited veterinarian with a vaccine  
16 licensed by the United States department of agriculture.

17       Sec. 8. ~~In a county in which section 6(2) or section~~  
18 ~~6(3)(a) applies, a~~ A person who becomes owner of a dog that is 4  
19 or more months old and that is not already licensed shall apply  
20 for a license within 30 days. A person who owns a dog that will  
21 become 4 months old and that is not already licensed shall apply  
22 for a license within 30 days after the dog becomes 4 months old.  
23 In a county in which section 6(2) or section 6(3)(a)[                    ]  
24 applies, if a person applies for [a AN ANNUAL] license under this  
  subsection  
25 after July 10 of a calendar year, the license fee shall be 1/2  
26 the fee provided for under section 6.

1       Sec. 9. Each DOG license issued UNDER THIS ACT shall  
2 display all of the following:

3       (a) An expiration date. Subject to section 6(4), the expi-  
4 ration date ~~[shall be 1 year or 3 years]~~ FOR A LICENSE ISSUED UNDER  
SECTION 6(2) OR 6(3)(B) shall be 1 year] after the date on or  
5 before which the license was required to be obtained under sec-  
6 tion ~~6(3)~~ 6 [- , AND FOR A LICENSE ISSUED UNDER SECTION 6(3)(A) OR  
6(3)(C) SHALL BE 1 YEAR OR 3 YEARS AFTER THAT DATE. SUBJECT TO  
SECTION 6(4)], THE EXPIRATION DATE OF A LICENSE ISSUED  
7 UNDER SECTION 6(3)(D), (E), OR (F) SHALL BE THE EARLIER OF THE  
8 FOLLOWING:

9       (i) ONE YEAR OR 3 YEARS, AS APPLICABLE, AFTER THE DATE ON  
10 WHICH THE LICENSE WAS REQUIRED TO BE OBTAINED.

11       (ii) THE EXPIRATION DATE OF THE DOG'S RABIES VACCINATION.

12       (b) A serial number corresponding to the number on the metal  
13 tag furnished to the owner.

14       (c) The name of the county issuing the license.

15       (d) A full description of the dog licensed.

16       Sec. 14. (1) Every township or city treasurer shall, on or  
17 before December 1 each year, apply to the county treasurer for  
18 necessary license blanks and tags for the ensuing year and shall  
19 issue dog licenses and tags in a manner prescribed for issuing  
20 licenses by the county treasurer. Every township or city trea-  
21 surer shall receive for the services of licensing dogs a reason-  
22 able fee at a rate determined by the county board of commission-  
23 ers for each dog license issued.

24       (2) Each township or city treasurer shall not later than  
25 March 1 each year, OR JUNE 1 EACH YEAR FOR A COUNTY OPERATING  
26 UNDER SECTION 6(3)(B) OR (C), return to the county treasurer all  
27 unused tags, and the book or books from which dog licenses have

1 been issued, containing receipts properly filled out, and showing  
2 the name of the person issued each license and the number of each  
3 license issued and a full description of each dog licensed. The  
4 township or city treasurer shall on or before March 1 each year,  
5 OR JUNE 1 EACH YEAR FOR A COUNTY OPERATING UNDER SECTION 6(3)(B)  
6 OR (C), pay over all money received for issuing licenses less the  
7 amount set by the board of commissioners to be retained by the  
8 township or village for each license issued.

9       (3) A city may, by resolution of its legislative body, pro-  
10 vide that its clerk shall perform the duties by this act imposed  
11 on the treasurer. Upon the adoption of the resolution, the trea-  
12 surer of a city is not required to issue licenses under this act  
13 but the clerk of the city shall perform, in the manner and under  
14 the terms and conditions, and with the same compensation, all of  
15 the duties imposed upon city treasurers by this act.

16       (4) A township treasurer, city treasurer, or city clerk may  
17 enter an agreement with the county treasurer for the county trea-  
18 surer to perform the duties of the township treasurer, city trea-  
19 surer, or city clerk under this act.