

# HOUSE BILL No. 4324

February 18, 2009, Introduced by Reps. Moss, Denby, Walsh, Agema, Crawford, Gregory, Marleau and Horn and referred to the Committee on Agriculture.

A bill to amend 1919 PA 339, entitled  
"Dog law of 1919,"  
by amending section 6 (MCL 287.266), as amended by 2000 PA 438.

**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  
7 resolution under subsection (3), the owner shall apply for a  
8 license annually on or before March 1.

9           (3) The county board of commissioners of a county may adopt a  
10 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 approval  
5 of the resolution. Subject to subsection (4), the resolution shall  
6 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 year.

10 (c) That the owner apply for a license by June 1 every year or  
11 every third year, at the owner's option.

12 (d) That the owner apply for a license by the last day of the  
13 month of the dog's current rabies vaccination, every year.

14 (e) That the owner apply for a license by the last day of the  
15 month of the dog's current rabies vaccination, every third year.

16 (f) That the owner apply for a license by 1 of the following,  
17 at the owner's option:

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

20 (ii) The last day of the month of the dog's current rabies  
21 vaccination, every third year.

22 (4) A resolution adopted under subsection (3) shall include  
23 necessary provisions for conversion to a new licensing schedule.  
24 The resolution may extend the effective period of outstanding  
25 licenses but shall not shorten the effective period of outstanding  
26 licenses or prorate license fees.

27 (5) The application shall state the breed, sex, age, color,

1 and markings of the dog, and the name and address of the last  
2 previous owner. ~~The~~ **EXCEPT AS OTHERWISE PROVIDED IN THIS**  
3 **SUBSECTION, THE** application for a license shall be accompanied by a  
4 valid certificate of a current vaccination for rabies, with a  
5 vaccine licensed by the United States department of agriculture,  
6 signed by an accredited veterinarian. The certificate for  
7 vaccination for rabies shall state the month and year of expiration  
8 for the rabies vaccination, in the veterinarian's opinion. **IF THE**  
9 **APPLICATION FOR A LICENSE IS SUBMITTED ELECTRONICALLY, THE OWNER OF**  
10 **THE DOG IS NOT REQUIRED TO PROVIDE A VALID CERTIFICATE OF A CURRENT**  
11 **VACCINATION FOR RABIES IF THE DOG WAS LICENSED THE PREVIOUS YEAR**  
12 **AND THE DOG'S CURRENT RABIES VACCINATION ON RECORD WITH THE**  
13 **TREASURER OF THE COUNTY OR, EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SECTION 14, THE**  
14 **TREASURER OF THE TOWNSHIP OR CITY WHERE THE OWNER RESIDES, OR THE**  
15 **TREASURER'S AUTHORIZED AGENT, IS STILL VALID.** A license shall not  
16 be issued under subsection (3)(d), (e), or (f) if the dog's current  
17 rabies vaccination will expire more than 1 month before the date on  
18 which that license would expire. When applying for a license, the  
19 owner shall pay the license fee provided for in the county budget.  
20 The county board of commissioners may set license fees in the  
21 county budget at a level sufficient to pay all the county's  
22 expenses of administering this act as it pertains to dogs. For a  
23 spayed or neutered dog, the license fee, if any, shall be set lower  
24 than the license fee for a dog that is not spayed or neutered. In  
25 addition, the license fee may be set higher for a delinquent  
26 application than for a timely application.

27 (6) If a dog is licensed before it becomes 5 months old and is

1 subsequently spayed or neutered before it becomes 7 months old, the  
2 owner of the dog may exchange the license for a license for a  
3 spayed or neutered dog and receive a refund for the difference in  
4 the cost of the licenses. The owner shall exchange the license  
5 before the dog becomes 7 months old.

6 (7) Subsection (6) applies in a county only if the county  
7 board of commissioners adopts a resolution to that effect during  
8 the 60-day period before the beginning of the county's fiscal year.  
9 Before adopting the resolution, the county board of commissioners  
10 shall obtain the county treasurer's written approval of the  
11 resolution.

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