



General Assembly

February Session, 2024

***Raised Bill No. 5223***

LCO No. 1159



Referred to Committee on ENVIRONMENT

Introduced by:  
(ENV)

***AN ACT CONCERNING MINOR REVISIONS TO AGRICULTURE  
RELATED STATUTES.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 22-327 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

3 As used in this chapter:

4 (1) "Animal" means any [brute creature] domestic animal that  
5 humans selectively breed in captivity and that lives in close association  
6 with humans, including, but not limited to, dogs, cats, [monkeys,]  
7 guinea pigs, hamsters, rabbits, [birds and reptiles] livestock, as defined  
8 in section 22-381, poultry, as defined in section 22-324, pet birds,  
9 amphibians, fish and reptiles that are offered for sale by a pet shop for  
10 which there is certification of captive breeding;

11 (2) "Chief Animal Control Officer", "Assistant Chief Animal Control  
12 Officer" and "animal control officer" mean, respectively, the Chief State  
13 Animal Control Officer, the Assistant Chief State Animal Control  
14 Officer and a state animal control officer appointed under section 22-

15 328;

16 (3) "Commercial kennel" means a place maintained for boarding or  
17 grooming dogs or cats, and includes, but is not limited to, any veterinary  
18 hospital which boards or grooms dogs or cats for nonmedical purposes;

19 (4) "Commissioner" means the Commissioner of Agriculture;

20 (5) "Grooming facility" means any place, [other than a commercial  
21 kennel, which] including any vehicle or trailer, that is maintained as a  
22 business where dogs are groomed;

23 (6) "Keeper" means any person, other than the owner, harboring or  
24 having in his possession any dog;

25 (7) "Kennel" means one pack or collection of dogs which are kept  
26 under one ownership at a single location and are bred for show, sport  
27 or sale;

28 (8) "Municipal animal control officer" means any such officer  
29 appointed under the provisions of section 22-331;

30 (9) "Pet shop" means any place at which animals not born and raised  
31 on the premises are kept for the purpose of sale to the public;

32 (10) "Poultry" has the same meaning as provided in section 22-326s;

33 [(11) "Regional animal control officer" and "assistant regional animal  
34 control officer" means a regional Connecticut animal control officer and  
35 an assistant regional Connecticut animal control officer appointed  
36 under the provisions of section 22-331a;]

37 [(12)] (11) "Training facility" means any place [, other than a  
38 commercial kennel or grooming facility, which] that is maintained as a  
39 business where dogs are trained;

40 [(13)] (12) "Service animal" has the same meaning as provided in 28  
41 CFR 35.104 and includes any animal in training to become a service  
42 animal.

43       Sec. 2. Section 22-367 of the 2024 supplement to the general statutes  
44 is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*  
45 *passage*):

46       Any person owning, keeping or harboring a dog or cat or maintaining  
47 a [breeding] local kennel or commercial kennel who violates any  
48 provision of this chapter for the violation of which no other penalty is  
49 provided, or any regulation legally made and published shall be fined  
50 not less than two hundred fifty dollars or imprisoned not more than  
51 thirty days or both. No commercial kennel shall board any dog or cat  
52 unless the owner of the dog or cat presents a certificate of vaccination as  
53 required by this chapter. The Chief Animal Control Officer, any animal  
54 control officer and any municipal or regional control officer shall  
55 diligently inquire after, and prosecute for, any violation of any provision  
56 of this chapter.

57       Sec. 3. Subsection (a) of section 22-380f of the general statutes is  
58 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*  
59 *passage*):

60       (a) No pound shall sell or give away any unspayed or unneutered  
61 dog or cat to any person unless such pound receives forty-five dollars  
62 from the person buying or adopting such dog or cat. Funds received  
63 pursuant to this section shall be paid quarterly by the municipality into  
64 the animal population control account established under section 22-  
65 380g. At the time of receipt of such payment, the pound shall complete  
66 a voucher, for the purpose of benefits, as provided in section 22-380i, for  
67 the sterilization and vaccination of such dog or cat and (1) provide the  
68 voucher to the person buying or adopting such dog or cat, or (2) retain  
69 such voucher and submit it to a participating veterinarian for such  
70 sterilization and vaccination before releasing the dog or cat to the person  
71 buying or adopting the dog or cat. Any such voucher shall be on a form  
72 provided by the commissioner and signed (A) by the eligible owner if  
73 the voucher is provided to the person buying or adopting the dog or cat,  
74 or (B) by a representative of the pound if the pound retains the voucher.  
75 Such voucher shall become void after sixty days from the date of

76 purchase or adoption unless a participating veterinarian certifies that  
77 the dog or cat is medically unfit for surgery. Such certification shall be  
78 on a form provided by the commissioner and specify a date by which  
79 such dog or cat may be fit for sterilization. If the surgery is performed  
80 more than thirty days after such specified date, the voucher shall  
81 become void. In the case of a dog or cat that has been previously  
82 sterilized or is permanently medically unfit for sterilization, as  
83 determined by a participating veterinarian, the voucher shall be void  
84 and the eligible owner may apply to the commissioner for a refund in  
85 the amount of forty-five dollars. If a dog or cat [has pyometra and] is not  
86 purchased or adopted from a pound, a representative of the pound may  
87 complete a voucher, for the purpose of benefits, as provided in section  
88 22-380i, and submit such voucher to a participating veterinarian for the  
89 sterilization and vaccination of such dog or cat.

90 Sec. 4. Section 22-413 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
91 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

92 (a) Any equine presented for public auction in this state shall have a  
93 health certificate issued by a veterinarian licensed pursuant to the  
94 provisions of chapter 384. [and cosigned by the State Veterinarian.] Such  
95 examination shall be obtained within ten days prior to the auction and  
96 shall be made at the expense of the owner.

97 (b) Any equine presented for public auction in this state shall have a  
98 certificate indicating a negative reaction to a [coggins] Coggins test  
99 which shall be obtained within sixty days prior to such auction.

100 (c) Any person violating any provision of this section shall be fined  
101 not less than one hundred dollars or more than five hundred dollars for  
102 each violation.

103 Sec. 5. Section 22-415a of the general statutes is repealed and the  
104 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

105 As used in sections [22-415a] 22-410 to 22-415j, inclusive:

106 (1) "Commissioner" means the Commissioner of Agriculture;

107 (2) "Equine" means any member of the equine family which includes  
108 horses, ponies, mules, asses, donkeys and zebras;

109 (3) "Equine infectious anemia" means a disease of equines caused by  
110 an infectious virus which may be spread by blood-sucking insects,  
111 unsterile surgical instruments and community use of equipment that  
112 may produce cuts or abrasions and which may cause an equine to test  
113 positive to an official test;

114 (4) "Licensed veterinarian" means a veterinarian who is licensed  
115 pursuant to the provisions of chapter 384;

116 (5) "Official test" means a serological test for equine infectious anemia  
117 that is (A) approved by the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service  
118 of the United States Department of Agriculture, (B) conducted in a  
119 laboratory approved by the Commissioner of Agriculture, and (C)  
120 administered by a licensed veterinarian, state veterinarian, or full-time  
121 employee with the state Department of Agriculture;

122 (6) "Reactor" means an equine whose blood serum reacts positively  
123 to an official test for equine infectious anemia;

124 (7) "Freeze-brand" means a metal brand which produces a permanent  
125 mark with a configuration of 16A that is three inches in height and is  
126 applied to the left neck or shoulder area of any equine that is positive to  
127 the equine infectious anemia test in such a manner that the brand is  
128 obvious and not obscured by a mane;

129 (8) "Isolation" means no biological contact with another equine;

130 (9) "Coggins test" means an official test for equine infectious anemia.

131 Sec. 6. Section 22-90 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
132 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

133 The State Entomologist shall, to such extent as he or she deems

134 necessary or expedient, examine apiaries and quarantine such as are  
135 diseased, harboring insects, mites or parasitic organisms adversely  
136 affecting bees or species or subspecies of bees, which have been  
137 determined by the State Entomologist to cause harm, directly or  
138 indirectly, to the bee population, crops or other plants and treat or  
139 destroy cases of the disease known as foul brood, insects, mites or  
140 parasitic organisms adversely affecting bees or species or subspecies of  
141 bees, which have been determined by the State Entomologist to cause  
142 harm, directly or indirectly, to the bee population, crops or other plants.  
143 The State Entomologist may appoint such inspectors as he or she deems  
144 necessary or expedient, and he or she or any person whom he or she  
145 appoints for that purpose shall have access at reasonable times to any  
146 apiary or place where bees are kept or where honeycomb and appliances  
147 are stored. [Any person appointed for such purpose shall possess all the  
148 qualifications for an Agricultural Research Technician II employed by  
149 the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station and have either five or  
150 more years of beekeeping experience or a minimum of three years of  
151 experience as a bee inspector at the federal or state level.] The State  
152 Entomologist is authorized to make suitable regulations regarding  
153 inspections and quarantine and to prescribe suitable forms for  
154 permanent records, which shall be on file and open to public inspection,  
155 and to make reasonable rules for the services of such inspectors, and  
156 may pay a reasonable sum for such services. No person or corporation  
157 shall remove bees under quarantine to another locality without  
158 obtaining the written permission of an authorized inspector. No person  
159 or transportation company shall receive for transportation any colony  
160 or package of bees, unless such colony or package is accompanied by a  
161 certificate of good health, furnished by an authorized inspector. No  
162 person or transportation company shall deliver any colony or package  
163 of bees brought from any other country, province, state or territory  
164 unless accompanied by a certificate of health furnished by an authorized  
165 inspector of such country, province, state or territory. Any person or  
166 transportation company receiving a shipment of bees from without the  
167 state, unaccompanied by such certificate, shall, before delivering such  
168 shipment to its consignee, notify the State Entomologist and hold such

169 shipment until inspected by an authorized inspector. If contagious  
170 diseases, insects, mites or parasitic organisms adversely affecting bees  
171 or species or subspecies of bees, which have been determined by the  
172 State Entomologist to cause harm, directly or indirectly, to the bee  
173 population, crops or other plants are found therein, such shipment shall  
174 be returned to the consignor or delivered to an authorized inspector of  
175 this state for treatment or destruction, provided the requirements of this  
176 section shall not apply to shipments of brood comb, with or without  
177 bees, suspected of being diseased and consigned to the State  
178 Entomologist, the agricultural experiment station or any authorized  
179 apiary inspector of the state or to the Bureau of Entomology of the  
180 United States or the United States Department of Agriculture, and  
181 provided there shall be no destruction of any shipment of bees as herein  
182 provided in the absence of reasonable notice to the consignee thereof.  
183 No person shall resist or hinder the State Entomologist, or any inspector  
184 whom he or she appoints, in the performance of the duties imposed by  
185 this section. No person or corporation shall sell, to be removed to  
186 another location, bees, brood comb, frames or hives that have been in  
187 use, with or without combs, until they have been inspected by an  
188 authorized inspector, who shall issue a certificate of health if they are  
189 found free of contagious disease, insects, mites or parasitic organisms  
190 adversely affecting bees or species or subspecies of bees, which have  
191 been determined by the State Entomologist to cause harm, directly or  
192 indirectly, to the bee population, crops or other plants. Any person  
193 violating any provision of this section shall be fined not more than one  
194 hundred dollars for a first violation, three hundred dollars for a second  
195 violation and five hundred dollars for a third and any subsequent  
196 violation.

197       Sec. 7. Subsection (a) of section 22-131 of the general statutes is  
198 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*  
199 *passage*):

200       (a) In accordance with section 4-9a, the Governor, [with the advice  
201 and consent of either house of the General Assembly,] shall appoint  
202 eight electors of the state, two of whom are actively engaged in the sale

203 and distribution of milk, two of whom are actively engaged in the  
204 processing of milk, two of whom have no active or financial interest in  
205 the production or sale of milk, and two of whom are actively engaged  
206 in the production of milk, which eight electors, with the Commissioner  
207 of Public Health, or the commissioner's designee, and the Commissioner  
208 of Agriculture, shall constitute the Milk Regulation Board. The  
209 Governor, for cause, after a public hearing, may remove any appointed  
210 member of the board.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	22-327
Sec. 2	<i>from passage</i>	22-367
Sec. 3	<i>from passage</i>	22-380f(a)
Sec. 4	<i>from passage</i>	22-413
Sec. 5	<i>from passage</i>	22-415a
Sec. 6	<i>from passage</i>	22-90
Sec. 7	<i>from passage</i>	22-131(a)

**Statement of Purpose:**

To make minor, technical and conforming changes to certain agriculture-related statutes.

*[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]*