

HB 1274-FN-LOCAL - AS INTRODUCED

2026 SESSION

26-2841
08/07

HOUSE BILL ***1274-FN-LOCAL***

AN ACT relative to dog licenses.

SPONSORS: Rep. Dargie, Hills. 43; Rep. Petrigno, Hills. 43

COMMITTEE: Environment and Agriculture

ANALYSIS

This bill increases the annual dog licensing fee.

Explanation: Matter added to current law appears in ***bold italics***.
Matter removed from current law appears ~~[in brackets and struckthrough.]~~
Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

In the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand Twenty-Six

AN ACT relative to dog licenses.

Be it Enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court convened:

1 1 Dog License Fees. Amend RSA 466:4, I-II to read as follows:

2 I.(a) The fee for every license for a year or portion of a year shall be:

3 (1) [~~\$4.50~~] **\$4.75** for dogs at least 4 months old but less than 7 months old which are
4 not spayed or neutered and [~~\$4.50~~] **\$4.75** for a neutered male or spayed female dog 7 months old or
5 older; provided, however, that the owner or keeper of such spayed female dog or neutered male dog
6 shall comply with the provisions of RSA 466:1-a to the satisfaction of the clerk of the town or city in
7 which such dog is owned or kept; or

8 (2) [~~\$7~~] **\$7.25** for any unneutered male or unspayed female dog 7 months old or
9 older.

10 (b) In addition to the sum required in subparagraphs I(a)(1) and (2), each year the owner
11 of each dog shall pay the clerk of the city or town where the dog is registered a companion animal
12 population control fee of \$1.75.

13 (c) The clerk shall remit all companion animal population control fees collected to the
14 state treasurer along with the fees sent in accordance with RSA 466:9, provided that such companion
15 animal population control fees shall be deposited into the companion animal neutering fund,
16 established in RSA 437-A:4-a.

17 II. Notwithstanding paragraph I, the fee for every license for a year or a portion of a year
18 shall be [~~\$1.75~~] **\$2** for a dog of either sex if the owner is 65 years of age or older. Such owner shall
19 not be required to pay the companion animal population control fee, under RSA 466:4, I(b), for
20 licensing of one dog; provided, however, that, if such owner wishes to license more than one dog, the
21 fee for any additional license shall be as provided in paragraph I.

22 2 Effective Date. This act shall take effect July 1, 2026.

LBA
26-2841
11/17/25

**HB 1274-FN-LOCAL- FISCAL NOTE
AS INTRODUCED**

AN ACT relative to dog licenses.

FISCAL IMPACT:

| Estimated Political Subdivision Impact | | | | |
|---|----------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| | FY 2026 | FY 2027 | FY 2028 | FY 2029 |
| County Revenue | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 |
| County Expenditures | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 |
| Local Revenue | \$0 | Indeterminable Increase | Indeterminable Increase | Indeterminable Increase |
| Local Expenditures | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 |

METHODOLOGY:

This bill increases dog license fees by \$0.25 per a license. The New Hampshire Municipal Association states although they don't have the data to quantify how much additional revenue municipalities will generate from this increased fee, it is assumed it will be less than \$10,000 per a city or town.

AGENCIES CONTACTED:

New Hampshire Municipal Association