

Amendment to HB 240-FN-LOCAL

1 Amend the title of the bill by replacing it with the following:

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3 AN ACT relative to nonpayment of dog licensing fees.

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5 Amend the bill by replacing all after the enacting clause with the following:

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7 1 Town or City Clerk; Dog Licenses; Warrants for Nonpayment. Amend RSA 466:14 to read as  
8 follows:

9 466:14 Warrants; Proceedings. The town or city clerk shall annually, between June 1 and June  
10 20, present to the local governing body a list of those owners of dogs that have failed to license or not  
11 renewed their dog licenses pursuant to RSA 466:1. The local governing body [~~shall~~] **may**, within 20  
12 days from June 20, issue a warrant to a local official authorized to issue a civil forfeiture for each  
13 unlicensed dog. The warrant may also authorize a local law enforcement officer to seize any  
14 unlicensed dog. The civil forfeiture may be sent by certified mail, or delivered in hand, or left at the  
15 abode of the dog owner. The cost of service shall not exceed \$7 and may be recovered by the city or  
16 town in addition to the amount of the civil forfeiture. If the unlicensed dog is seized, it shall be held  
17 in a town or city holding facility for a period of 7 days, after which time full title to the dog shall pass  
18 to the facility, unless the owner of the dog has, before the expiration of the period, caused the dog to  
19 be licensed. The owner shall pay the facility a necessary and reasonable sum per day, as agreed  
20 upon by the governing body of the town or city and the facility, for each day the dog has been kept  
21 and maintained by the facility, plus any necessary veterinary fees incurred by the facility for the  
22 benefit of the dog. Before a local law enforcement officer seizes any unlicensed dog, a written  
23 warning shall be given to the dog owner.

24 2 Effective Date. This act shall take effect 60 days after its passage.

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AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill changes the law to enable local governing bodies to issue warrants for civil forfeiture of an unlicensed dog for nonpayment of dog license fees. The law currently requires local governing bodies to issue warrants for civil forfeiture of an unlicensed dog for nonpayment of dog license fees.