

HB 240-FN-LOCAL - AS AMENDED BY THE HOUSE

13Feb2025... 0193h

2025 SESSION

25-0018

08/05

HOUSE BILL

240-FN-LOCAL

AN ACT relative to nonpayment of dog licensing fees.

SPONSORS: Rep. Tom Mannion, Hills. 1; Rep. Panek, Hills. 1; Rep. Tenczar, Hills. 1; Rep. Berry, Hills. 44; Rep. Tim Mannion, Hills. 1; Sen. Abbas, Dist 22

COMMITTEE: Environment and Agriculture

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.

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 Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.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 Five

AN ACT relative to nonpayment of dog licensing fees.

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

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

3 466:14 Warrants; Proceedings. The town or city clerk shall annually, between June 1 and June
4 20, present to the local governing body a list of those owners of dogs that have failed to license or not
5 renewed their dog licenses pursuant to RSA 466:1. The local governing body [~~shall~~] **may**, within 20
6 days from June 20, issue a warrant to a local official authorized to issue a civil forfeiture for each
7 unlicensed dog. The warrant may also authorize a local law enforcement officer to seize any
8 unlicensed dog. The civil forfeiture may be sent by certified mail, or delivered in hand, or left at the
9 abode of the dog owner. The cost of service shall not exceed \$7 and may be recovered by the city or
10 town in addition to the amount of the civil forfeiture. If the unlicensed dog is seized, it shall be held
11 in a town or city holding facility for a period of 7 days, after which time full title to the dog shall pass
12 to the facility, unless the owner of the dog has, before the expiration of the period, caused the dog to
13 be licensed. The owner shall pay the facility a necessary and reasonable sum per day, as agreed
14 upon by the governing body of the town or city and the facility, for each day the dog has been kept
15 and maintained by the facility, plus any necessary veterinary fees incurred by the facility for the
16 benefit of the dog. Before a local law enforcement officer seizes any unlicensed dog, a written
17 warning shall be given to the dog owner.

18 2 Effective Date. This act shall take effect 60 days after its passage.

LBA
25-0018
2/19/25

HB 240-FN-LOCAL- FISCAL NOTE
AS AMENDED BY THE HOUSE (AMENDMENT #2025-0193h)

AN ACT relative to nonpayment of dog licensing fees.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The Office of Legislative Budget Assistant states this bill, as amended by the House, has no fiscal impact on state, county and local expenditures or revenue.

AGENCIES CONTACTED:

None