



126th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2013

Legislative Document

No. 1285

H.P. 912

House of Representatives, April 2, 2013

An Act To Allow Law Enforcement Agencies Access to Animal Licensing Information

Reference to the Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry suggested and ordered printed.

Millicent M. MacFarland
MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND
Clerk

Presented by Representative BOLAND of Sanford.
Cosponsored by Senator LACHOWICZ of Kennebec and
Representatives: CHENETTE of Saco, HARLOW of Portland, KUMIEGA of Deer Isle,
KUSIAK of Fairfield, Senator: GERZOFSKY of Cumberland.

1 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:**

2 **Sec. 1. 7 MRSA §3923-H** is enacted to read:

3 **§3923-H. Computerized database for dog licenses**

4 **1. Electronic database.** The commissioner, in consultation with a statewide
5 association of municipal clerks, shall create an electronic statewide database of dog
6 licenses. The electronic database of dog licenses created under this section must be
7 accessible to all law enforcement agencies in this State for use in animal control.

8 **2. Fees.** The commissioner may establish fees to fund the development and
9 maintenance of the electronic database established pursuant to subsection 1. The
10 commissioner may adopt rules to implement this subsection. Rules adopted pursuant to
11 this subsection are major substantive rules as defined in Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter
12 2-A.

13 **3. Animal Licensing Database Fund.** There is established within the Department
14 of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry the Animal Licensing Database Fund for use in
15 creating and maintaining the electronic database of dog licenses pursuant to subsection 1.
16 The commissioner shall deposit all fees received pursuant to subsection 2 into the fund.
17 The fund does not lapse, but continues from year to year.

18 **Sec. 2. Effective date.** This Act takes effect January 1, 2014.

19 **SUMMARY**

20 This bill requires the Commissioner of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry to
21 create a statewide electronic database of dog licenses by January 1, 2014. The bill also
22 requires that the database be accessible to all law enforcement agencies in the State for
23 use in animal control. It also establishes the Animal Licensing Database Fund as a
24 nonlapsing account within the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry.
25 The bill authorizes the commissioner to establish by rule fees to fund and maintain the
26 electronic database of dog licenses and requires that rules adopted to establish these fees
27 are major substantive rules.