

ASSEMBLY, No. 1079

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 1996 SESSION

By Assemblymen CORODEMUS and T. SMITH

1 AN ACT concerning the control of animals and amending R.S.26:4-94.

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3 BE IT ENACTED by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
4 of New Jersey:

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6 1. R.S.26:4-94 is amended to read as follows:

7 26:4-94. Any person who violates any of the provisions of this
8 article except [sections] R.S.26:4-90 to R.S.26:4-92, or any notice
9 served thereunder, shall be liable to a penalty of [five dollars
10 (\$5.00)]\$100 for the first offense, and not less than [five dollars
11 (\$5.00)]\$100 nor more than [fifty dollars (\$50.00)]\$2,000 for each
12 subsequent offense, to be recovered in a civil action brought by and in
13 the name of the State Department or a local board. Penalties
14 hereunder shall be enforced and collected pursuant to [sections]
15 R.S.26:3-72, R.S.26:3-77 and R.S.26:3-78 [of the Revised Statutes].

A person who is attacked or bitten by a dog, cat or other animal of which a person who is liable for a penalty under this section is in charge, shall be entitled to payment from the proceeds of the penalty, within the limits of those proceeds, for the cost of treatment for rabies, as a result of that attack or bite, which is not covered by a State or federal program or health insurance contract or policy.

22 (cf: P.L.1953, c.26, s.47)

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24 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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STATEMENT

This bill amends R.S.26:4-94 to increase the fines for a violation of the statutes governing control of dogs, cats and other animals who attack or bite a person from \$5 to \$100 for the first offense, and from a range of between \$5 and \$50 to a range of between \$100 and \$2,000

EXPLANATION - Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

1 for each subsequent offense. The amount of these fines has not been
2 increased since 1953.

3 The bill further provides that a person who is attacked or bitten by
4 an animal of which a person who is liable for the above penalty is in
5 charge, shall be entitled to be paid from the proceeds of the penalty,
6 within the limits of those proceeds, for the cost of treatment for rabies,
7 as a result of that attack or bite, which is not covered by a State or
8 federal program or health insurance contract or policy.

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13 Increases fines for violation of statutes governing control of dogs, cats
14 and other animals.