

# ASSEMBLY, No. 5272

## STATE OF NEW JERSEY 219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED JANUARY 25, 2021

**Sponsored by:**

**Assemblyman DANIEL R. BENSON**

**District 14 (Mercer and Middlesex)**

**SYNOPSIS**

Eliminates requirement to have registration number tattooed on certain potentially dangerous dogs.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As introduced.



1 AN ACT removing a requirement to have a registration number  
2 tattooed on certain potentially dangerous dogs and amending  
3 P.L.1989, c.307.

4  
5 **BE IT ENACTED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*  
6 *of New Jersey:*

7  
8 1. Section 8 of P.L.1989, c.307 (C.4:19-24) is amended to read  
9 as follows:

10 8. If the municipal court declares the dog to be potentially  
11 dangerous, it shall issue an order and a schedule for compliance  
12 which, in part:

13 a. shall require the owner to comply with the following  
14 conditions:

15 (1) to apply, at his own expense, to the municipal clerk or other  
16 official designated to license dogs pursuant to section 2 of  
17 P.L.1941, c.151 (C.4:19-15.2), for a special municipal potentially  
18 dangerous dog license, municipal registration number, and red  
19 identification tag issued pursuant to section 14 of **[this act]**  
20 P.L.1989, c.307 (C.4:19-30) . **[The owner shall, at his own**  
21 **expense, have the registration number tattooed upon the dog in a**  
22 **prominent location.]** A potentially dangerous dog shall be  
23 impounded until the owner obtains a municipal potentially  
24 dangerous dog license, municipal registration number, and red  
25 identification tag;

26 (2) to display, in a conspicuous manner, a sign on his premises  
27 warning that a potentially dangerous dog is on the premises. The  
28 sign shall be visible and legible from 50 feet of the enclosure  
29 required pursuant to paragraph (3) of this subsection;

30 (3) to immediately erect and maintain an enclosure for the  
31 potentially dangerous dog on the property where the potentially  
32 dangerous dog will be kept and maintained, which has sound sides,  
33 top and bottom to prevent the potentially dangerous dog from  
34 escaping by climbing, jumping or digging and within a fence of at  
35 least six feet in height separated by at least three feet from the  
36 confined area. The owner of a potentially dangerous dog shall  
37 securely lock the enclosure to prevent the entry of the general  
38 public and to preclude any release or escape of a potentially  
39 dangerous dog by an unknowing child or other person. All  
40 potentially dangerous dogs shall be confined in the enclosure or, if  
41 taken out of the enclosure, securely muzzled and restrained with a  
42 tether approved by the animal control officer and having a  
43 minimum tensile strength sufficiently in excess of that required to  
44 restrict the potentially dangerous dog's movements to a radius of no

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

**Matter underlined thus is new matter.**

1 more than three feet from the owner and under the direct  
2 supervision of the owner;  
3 b. may require the owner to maintain liability insurance in an  
4 amount determined by the municipal court to cover any damage or  
5 injury caused by the potentially dangerous dog. The liability  
6 insurance, which may be separate from any other homeowner  
7 policy, shall contain a provision requiring the municipality in which  
8 the owner resides to be named as an additional insured for the sole  
9 purpose of being notified by the insurance company of any  
10 cancellation, termination or expiration of the liability insurance  
11 policy.  
12 (cf: P.L.1994, c.187, s.5)

13  
14 2. This act shall take effect immediately.  
15  
16

17 STATEMENT  
18

19 This bill would remove the requirement, under P.L.1989, c.307  
20 (C.4:19-17 et. seq.), that the owner of a dog that has been declared  
21 potentially dangerous by a municipal court tattoo a registration  
22 number upon the dog in a prominent location.