



JB Pritzker, Governor
John M. Sullivan, Director

Bureau of Animal Health and Welfare

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August 15, 2019

Dear Animal Welfare Licensee,

Three bills recently signed by the Governor have become Public Acts and directly affect licensees under the Illinois Animal Welfare Act and Illinois Animal Control Act. The Bureau of Animal Health and Welfare is responsible for the administration of these Acts and is notifying you of the requirements of these Acts.

The first is Public Act 101-0210. This Act amends the Animal Welfare Act and requires that kennel operators meet certain requirements pertaining to fire alarm systems, sprinkler systems, and staffing of kennels while dogs or cats are on the premises. Non-compliance with the provisions of this Act will result in kennel licenses not being issued or renewed. This Act takes effect on January 1, 2020.

The full text of this Act can be found at:

<http://www.ilga.gov/legislation/publicacts/fulltext.asp?Name=101-0210>

The second is Public Act 101-0295. This Act amends the Animal Welfare Act and the Animal Control Act. There are numerous amendments to the Animal Welfare Act which include clarifying the definition of an animal shelter; changes pertaining to foster homes; and additions pertaining to feral cat programs. Significant changes were made to the fine amounts for violations of the Act and to the licensing fees. Animal Control licensees should review the amendments to the Animal Control Act. There are changes to the definitions, how feral cats are managed, and the spay/neuter requirement prior to adoption. This Public Act went into effect August 9, 2019.

The full text of this Act can be found at:

<http://www.ilga.gov/legislation/publicacts/fulltext.asp?Name=101-0295>

The third is Public Act 101-0299. This Act amends the Animal Control Act and requires cats four months of age and older that are companion animals to be vaccinated against rabies by a licensed veterinarian. Feral cats presented to a licensed veterinarian for sterilization are also required to be vaccinated against rabies. This Public Act takes effect on January 1, 2020.

The full text of this Act can be found at:

<http://www.ilga.gov/legislation/publicacts/fulltext.asp?Name=101-0299>

The Bureau strongly encourages you to carefully review these Public Acts as they may directly affect your business activities.



FESSI, Inc.



September 4, 2019

Douglas County Animal Shelter
1007 South Central Ave E
Tuscola, IL 61953

Dear Douglas County Animal Shelter,

Good afternoon! We are writing you regarding the recent legislation changes pertaining to Kennel operations. Our Governor recently signed bill HB3390 which goes into effect on August 6, 2019.

Synopsis As Introduced

Amends the Animal Welfare Act. Replaces everything after the enacting clause. Provides that a kennel operator that maintains dogs and cats for boarding that is not staffed at all times shall be equipped with at least one fire alarm system or fire sprinkler system in operating condition in every building of the kennel that is used for the housing of animals. Provides that an applicable federal, State, or local law, rule, or building code requiring the installation or maintenance of fire alarm monitoring systems in a manner different from, but providing a level of safety for occupants that is equal to or greater than that provided by the amendatory Act, shall be deemed to comply with the amendatory Act and the requirements of the more stringent law shall govern.

This bill requires all kennels and overnight stay/boarding facilities to do one of three things: 1) Install a Sprinkler system, 2) Staff their facility 24/7, or 3) Install a fire alarm system. We believe the third option to be the most cost effective. Our business includes fire alarm and security system sales, service, and monitoring, as well as fire extinguisher and fire suppression systems. We are offering our assistance and to help you protect your place of business and the animals under your care. Please call us at the numbers below or visit us online.

Sincerely,

LOCALLY OWNED AND OPERATED

Brad Herendeen, Alarm Technician
Tom Byrnes, Alarm Manager

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AN ACT concerning regulation.

**Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,
represented in the General Assembly:**

Section 5. The Animal Welfare Act is amended by adding Section 18.2 as follows:

(225 ILCS 605/18.2 new)

Sec. 18.2. Fire alarm system.

(a) In this Section:

"Fire alarm system" means a system that automatically triggers notification to local emergency responders when activated.

"Staffing plan" means a plan to staff a kennel operator anytime dogs or cats are on the premises. At a minimum, a staffing plan must include the kennel operator's hours of operation, number of staff, names of staff, and the staff's contact information. The Department may adopt rules adding requirements to a staffing plan.

"Qualified fire inspector" means a local fire official or a building inspector working for a unit of local government or fire protection district who is qualified to inspect buildings for fire safety or building code compliance.

(b) A kennel operator that maintains dogs or cats for boarding and that is not staffed at all times dogs or cats are

on the premises shall be equipped with at least one fire alarm system or fire sprinkler system in operating condition in every building of the kennel operator that is used for the housing of animals. The kennel operator shall certify in its license application and annually certify in its license renewal that either: (1) its facility has a fire alarm system or a fire sprinkler system, and shall include with the application or license renewal an attached description and picture of the make and model of the system used; or (2) the kennel is staffed at all times dogs or cats are on the premises, and shall include with the application or license renewal an attached staffing plan. The Department shall include this certification on each application for license or license renewal.

(c) A qualified fire inspector may inspect a kennel operator that maintains dogs and cats for boarding during the course of performing routine inspections. If during a routine inspection a qualified fire inspector determines that the kennel operator does not have a fire alarm system or fire sprinkler system the inspector may inform the Department.

(d) For the purposes of this Section, veterinary hospitals, practices, or offices are not kennel operators.

Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect January 1, 2020.