



Legislative & Rules Committee – Board of Representatives

Eileen Heaphy, Chair

Elise Coleman, Vice Chair

Committee Report

Date: Monday, June 20, 2016

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Place: Democratic Caucus Room, 4th Floor Government Center, 888 Washington Boulevard, Stamford, CT

The Legislative & Rules Committee met as indicated above. In attendance were Chair Heaphy and Committee Member Reps. Mitchell and Silver. Absent or excused were Reps. Coleman, Day, Nabel, Okun, Ryan and Zelinsky. Also present were Rep. McMullen, Ted Jankowski, Director of Public Safety & Health; and Michael Toma, Law Department. Also present was one member of the public (see the [public hearing sign-in sheet](#) attached).

Chair Heaphy called the meeting to order at 7:08 p.m.

| Item No. | Description | Committee Actions |
|-----------------------------|---|--------------------------|
| 1. LR29.052 | ORDINANCE, <u>for public hearing and final adoption</u> ; Amending Chapter 111. Public Safety and Animal Welfare. 06/02/15 – Submitted by Mayor Martin and Rep. Heaphy 06/15/15 – Held in Committee 07/21/15 – Held in Committee 08/31/15 – Held in Committee 09/21/15 – Held in Committee 10/29/15 – Held in Committee 11/16/15 – Approved by Committee for publication 12/14/15 – Held at Steering 01/19/16 – Public Hearing Held & Held in Committee 03/21/16 – Held in Committee 04/18/16 – Approved by Committee, as amended, for public hearing 05/02/16 – Approved for republication and public hearing | No Action Taken |

Secondary Committee: Public Safety & Health

Chair Heaphy opened the public hearing.

Mr. Kalmanash spoke in opposition to the ordinance, particularly with regard to the breeding permit requirement (Sec. 111-12). He stated that the requirement is discriminatory against the

sport of dogs and encroaches on the rights of citizens by allowing the Animal Control Officer to enter homes.

There being no other members of the public wishing to speak, Chair Heaphy closed the public hearing.

Since there was no quorum present, the Committee could take no actions, but were able to hear from invited guests under the Board's rules.

Chair Heaphy noted that Committee members had received two communications, which are attached. The first letter is from the [AKC](#) concerning the breeding permit and the other is from [Jenny Colucci](#) requesting that the ordinance be amended to eliminate the requirement that roaming cats be spayed.

Committee members discussed with Mr. Toma and Mr. Jankowski:

- The procedure to be followed by the Animal Control Officer if there is a complaint under §111-11.D (Nuisance). Mr. Jankowski explained that if there is a complaint, a police officer may respond and make a report, which is then investigated by the Animal Control Officer
- The ability of the Animal Control Officer to enter premises under §111-12 and the cancellation of a breeding permit if an applicant or breeder fails to permit access to the Animal Control Officer
- An Animal Control Officer can get an administrative warrant to enter in response to a complaint, unless the officer sees a safety issue with the Officer's own eyes
- There is no need for a breeding permit if a person has a kennel license; a kennel license permits a state animal control officer to enter the premises

Rep. McMullen asked Mr. Toma to determine if the Town Clerk can refuse to issue a state license if all of the state requirements are complied with by the applicant but there is no proof of parvovirus vaccine, as required by a local ordinance. Mr. Toma will provide the Committee with this information.

Chair Heaphy adjourned the meeting at 7:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Eileen Heaphy, Chair

This meeting is on [video](#).