

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to the law as it existed prior to this session of the General Assembly.

1 State of Arkansas  
2 87th General Assembly  
3 Regular Session, 2009

# A Bill

SENATE BILL 864

4  
5 By: Senator Madison  
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## For An Act To Be Entitled

8  
9 AN ACT TO REQUIRE OWNERS OF MULTIPLE DOGS OR CATS  
10 TO OBTAIN LICENSES ANNUALLY; AND FOR OTHER  
11 PURPOSES.  
12  
13

## Subtitle

14  
15 TO REQUIRE OWNERS OF MULTIPLE DOGS OR  
16 CATS TO OBTAIN LICENSES ANNUALLY.  
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19 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:  
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21 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 20, Chapter 19 is amended to add an  
22 additional section to read as follows:

23 20-19-105. Multiple dogs and cats – License requirement.

24 (a) As used in this section, “owner” means a person who:

25 (1) Has a right of property in a dog or cat;

26 (2) Keeps or harbors a dog or cat;

27 (3) Has a dog or cat in his or her care; or

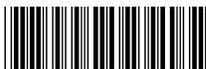
28 (4) Acts as a custodian of a dog or cat.

29 (b) An owner of twelve (12) or more dogs, cats, or any combination of  
30 dogs and cats shall annually obtain a license issued by the Arkansas  
31 Agriculture Department.

32 (c) The license fee is for an owner of:

33 (1) Twelve (12) or more but less than twenty-four (24) dogs,  
34 cats, or any combination of dogs and cats is two hundred fifty dollars  
35 (\$250); and

36 (2) Twenty-four (24) or more dogs, cats, or any combination of



1 dogs and cats is one thousand dollars (\$1,000).

2 (d) The following persons are not required to be licensed under this  
3 section:

4 (1) A veterinarian or veterinary facility that provides services  
5 under the Arkansas Veterinary Medical Practice Act, § 17-101-101 et seq.;

6 (2) A boarding, kennel, or grooming facility that acts as  
7 temporary custodian of a dog or cat in exchange for compensation;

8 (3) An agency of the federal government acting under its  
9 official duties;

10 (4) An agency of the state, county, municipality, or other  
11 governmental or political subdivision of the state acting under its official  
12 duties;

13 (5) An entity owned or managed by an agency of the state,  
14 county, municipality, or other governmental or political subdivision of the  
15 state that is responsible for animal control operations in its jurisdiction;  
16 and

17 (6) A research facility or institution that is subject to any  
18 federal law or regulation governing animal research that is in effect on  
19 January 1, 2009.

20 (e)(1) An official of the department, a public health or safety  
21 official, and an officer employed or appointed by an agency of the state,  
22 county, municipality, or other governmental or political subdivision of the  
23 state that is responsible for animal control operations in its jurisdiction,  
24 upon receiving a complaint or upon his or her own motion, may investigate a  
25 violation of this section during daytime hours.

26 (2) The investigation may include the inspection of the dogs or  
27 cats on the premises and any place where dogs or cats are kept or maintained.

28 (f) The fees established under this section shall be collected by the  
29 department and transmitted to the Treasurer of State, who shall credit the  
30 fees to the Livestock and Poultry Special Revenue Fund.

31 (g) A person who fails to obtain a license required under this section  
32 is guilty of a Class A misdemeanor.

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