

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2009

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HOUSE DRH80294-LL-212 (03/25)

Short Title: Confinement of Biting Dogs and Cats.

(Public)

Sponsors: Representative Blue.

Referred to:

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2 AN ACT TO AMEND THE LAW REGARDING THE CONFINEMENT OF BITING DOGS
3 AND CATS TO PROVIDE THAT THOSE ANIMALS SHALL BE CONFINED ON
4 THEIR OWNER'S PROPERTY UNLESS CIRCUMSTANCES JUSTIFY CONFINING
5 THEM ELSEWHERE.

6 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

7 SECTION 1. G.S. 130A-196 reads as rewritten:

8 "§ 130A-196. Confinement of all biting dogs and cats; notice to local health director;
9 reports by physicians; certain dogs exempt.

10 When a person has been bitten by a dog or cat, the person or parent, guardian or person
11 standing in loco parentis of the person, and the person owning the animal or in control or
12 possession of the animal shall notify the local health director immediately and give the name
13 and address of the person bitten and the owner of the animal. All dogs and cats that bite a
14 person shall be immediately confined for 10 days on the owner's property, unless the owner
15 cannot produce proof of the animal's rabies vaccinations within a reasonable time or unless
16 circumstances exist to suggest that the animal presents a threat to the public, in which case the
17 animal shall be confined for 10 days in a place designated by the local health director.
18 However, the local health director may authorize a dog trained and used by a law enforcement
19 agency to be released from confinement to perform official duties upon submission of proof
20 that the dog has been vaccinated for rabies in compliance with this Part. After reviewing the
21 circumstances of the particular case, the local health director may allow the owner of an animal
22 that has been removed from the owner's property to confine the animal on the owner's property.
23 An owner who fails to confine his animal in accordance with the instructions of the local health
24 director shall be guilty of a Class 2 misdemeanor. If the owner or the person who controls or
25 possesses a dog or cat that has bitten a person refuses to confine the animal as required by this
26 section, the local health director may order seizure of the animal and its confinement for 10
27 days at the expense of the owner. A physician who attends a person bitten by an animal known
28 to be a potential carrier of rabies shall report within 24 hours to the local health director the
29 name, age and sex of that person."

30 SECTION 2. This act becomes effective July 1, 2009.



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