

**BILL NUMBER: SB 1578 AMENDED BILL TEXT**

**AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY, AUGUST 24, 2006**

SECTION 1. Chapter 8 (commencing with Section 122335) is added to Part 6 of Division 105 of the Health and Safety Code, to read:

CHAPTER 8. Dog Tethering

122335. (a) For purposes of this chapter, the following terms shall have the following definitions:

(1) "Animal control" means the municipal or county animal control agency or any other entity responsible for enforcing animal-related laws.

(2) "Agricultural operation" means an activity that is necessary for the commercial growing and harvesting of crops or the raising of livestock or poultry.

(3) "Person" means any individual, partnership, corporation, organization, trade or professional association, firm, limited liability company, joint venture, association, trust, estate, or any other legal entity, and any officer, member, shareholder, director, employee, agent, or representative thereof.

(4) "Reasonable period" means a period of time not to exceed three hours in a 24-hour period, or a time that is otherwise approved by animal control.

(b) No person shall tether, fasten, chain, tie, or restrain a dog, or cause a dog to be tethered, fastened, chained, tied, or restrained, to a dog house, tree, fence, or any other stationary object.

(c) Notwithstanding subdivision (b), a person may do any of the following in accordance with Section 597t of the Penal Code:

(1) Attach a dog to a running line, pulley, or trolley system. A dog shall not be tethered to the running line, pulley, or trolley system by means of a choke collar or pinch collar.

(2) Tether, fasten, chain, tie, or otherwise restrain a dog pursuant to the requirements of a camping or recreational area.

(3) Tether, fasten, chain, or tie a dog no longer than is necessary for the person to complete a temporary task that requires the dog to be restrained for a reasonable period.

(4) Tether, fasten, chain, or tie a dog while engaged in, or actively training for, an activity that is conducted pursuant to a valid license issued by the State of California if the activity for which the license is issued is associated with the use or presence ~~of a dog. For purposes of this paragraph, dogs shall not be left unattended.~~ of a dog. *Nothing in this paragraph shall be construed to prohibit a person from restraining a dog while participating in activities or using accommodations that are reasonably associated with the licensed activity.*

~~(5) (A) Tether, fasten, chain, or tie a dog while actively engaged in any of the following activities, providing the activity is necessary in the course and scope of the person's business:~~

~~(i) Shepherding or herding of cattle and livestock, if the restraint is reasonably necessary for the safety of the dog.~~

~~(ii) Using machinery in the course of an agricultural operation's business, if the restraint is reasonably necessary for the safety of the dog.~~

~~(B) For purposes of this paragraph, the dog shall be monitored regularly and ensured access to adequate food, water, and shelter,~~

~~consistent with the requirements of Section 597t of the Penal Code.~~

*(5) Tether, fasten, chain, or tie a dog while actively engaged in any of the following:*

*(A) Conduct that is directly related to the business of shepherding or herding cattle or livestock.*

*(B) Conduct that is directly related to the business of cultivating agricultural products, if the restraint is reasonably necessary for the safety of the dog.*

(d) A person who violates this chapter is guilty of an infraction or a misdemeanor.

(1) An infraction under this chapter is punishable upon conviction by a fine of up to two hundred fifty dollars (\$250) as to each dog with respect to which a violation occurs.

(2) A misdemeanor under this chapter is punishable upon conviction by a fine of up to one thousand dollars (\$1,000) as to each dog with respect to which a violation occurs, or imprisonment in a county jail for not more than six months, or both.

(3) *Notwithstanding subdivision (d), animal control may issue a correction warning to a person who violates this chapter, requiring the owner to correct the violation, in lieu of an infraction or misdemeanor, unless the violation endangers the health or safety of the animal, the animal has been wounded as a result of the violation, or a correction warning has previously been issued to the individual.*

(e) Nothing in this chapter shall be construed to prohibit a person from walking a dog with a hand-held leash.

SEC. 2. No reimbursement is required by this act pursuant to Section 6 of Article XIII B of the California Constitution because the only costs that may be incurred by a local agency or school district will be incurred because this act creates a new crime or infraction, eliminates a crime or infraction, or changes the penalty for a crime or infraction, within the meaning of Section 17556 of the Government Code, or changes the definition of a crime within the meaning of Section 6 of Article XIII B of the California Constitution.

NOTE FROM TAC: PRIOR BILL VERSIONS MOVED TO END

**EXISTING PENAL CODE PROVISION APPLICABLE TO TETHERING ISSUES FOR ANY SPECIES:**

597t. Every person who keeps an animal confined in an enclosed area shall provide it with an adequate exercise area. If the animal is restricted by a leash, rope, or chain, the leash, rope, or chain shall be affixed in such a manner that it will prevent the animal from becoming entangled or injured and permit the animal's access to adequate shelter, food, and water. Violation of this section constitutes a misdemeanor.

**NOTE FROM TAC: AMENDED VERSION CHANGES CONTEXT OF NEW PROVISION WITHIN THE HEALTH & SAFETY CODE WITHIN VETERINARY PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY PART**

DIVISION 105. COMMUNICABLE DISEASE PREVENTION AND CONTROL

PART 1. ADMINISTRATION OF COMMUNICABLE DISEASE PREVENTION AND CONTROL	
CHAPTER 1. GENERAL PROVISIONS AND DEFINITIONS .....	<a href="#">120100-120115</a>
CHAPTER 2. FUNCTIONS AND DUTIES OF THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES .....	<a href="#">120125-120150</a>
CHAPTER 3. FUNCTIONS AND DUTIES OF LOCAL HEALTH OFFICERS ..	<a href="#">120175-120250</a>
CHAPTER 3.5. COMMUNICABLE DISEASES EXPOSURE NOTIFICATION ACT .....	<a href="#">120260-120263</a>
CHAPTER 4. VIOLATIONS .....	<a href="#">120275-120305</a>
PART 2. IMMUNIZATIONS	
CHAPTER 1. EDUCATIONAL AND CHILD CARE FACILITY IMMUNIZATION REQUIREMENTS .....	<a href="#">120325-120380</a>
CHAPTER 1.1. MENINGOCOCCAL DISEASE STRATEGIC PREVENTION ACT OF 2001 .....	<a href="#">120381</a>
CHAPTER 1.5. IMMUNIZATION OF COLLEGE-AGE STUDENTS .....	<a href="#">120390-120390.7</a>
CHAPTER 1.6. INFLUENZA AND PNEUMOCOCCAL IMMUNIZATIONS ...	<a href="#">120392-120392.8</a>
CHAPTER 1.7. MENINGOCOCCAL IMMUNIZATION .....	<a href="#">120395-120399</a>
CHAPTER 2. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES PROVISION OF FUNDS, IMMUNIBIOLOGICS, AND ACCESS TO IMMUNIBIOLOGICS .....	<a href="#">120400-120435</a>
CHAPTER 2.5. DISCLOSURE OF IMMUNIZATION STATUS .....	<a href="#">120440</a>
CHAPTER 3. IMMUNIZATION REACTIONS .....	<a href="#">120455</a>
CHAPTER 4. REPORTS .....	<a href="#">120475</a>
CHAPTER 5. VACCINE DEVELOPMENT .....	<a href="#">120480</a>
PART 3. SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED DISEASE	
CHAPTER 1. PREVENTION AND CONTROL .....	<a href="#">120500-120605</a>
CHAPTER 2. PRENATAL SYPHILIS TESTS .....	<a href="#">120675-120715</a>
CHAPTER 3. INFORMATION ON VENEREAL DISEASE MATERIALS .....	<a href="#">120750</a>
PART 4. HUMAN IMMUNODEFICIENCY VIRUS (HIV)	
CHAPTER 1. DEFINITIONS .....	<a href="#">120775</a>
CHAPTER 2. CALIFORNIA ACQUIRED IMMUNE DEFICIENCY SYNDROME (AIDS) PROGRAM (CAP) .....	<a href="#">120800-120871</a>
CHAPTER 3. ACQUIRED IMMUNE DEFICIENCY SYNDROME (AIDS) INFORMATION .....	<a href="#">120875-120895</a>
CHAPTER 4. ACQUIRED IMMUNE DEFICIENCY SYNDROME (AIDS) EARLY INTERVENTION PROJECTS .....	<a href="#">120900-120920</a>
CHAPTER 5. PROVISION OF AZIDOTHYIMIDINE .....	<a href="#">120925-120935</a>
CHAPTER 6. HUMAN IMMUNODEFICIENCY VIRUS (HIV) TREATMENT ...	<a href="#">120950-120970</a>
CHAPTER 7. MANDATED BLOOD TESTING AND CONFIDENTIALITY TO PROTECT PUBLIC HEALTH .....	<a href="#">120975-121020</a>
CHAPTER 8. ACQUIRED IMMUNE DEFICIENCY SYNDROME (AIDS) PUBLIC HEALTH RECORDS CONFIDENTIALITY ACT .....	<a href="#">121025-121035</a>
CHAPTER 9. ACQUIRED IMMUNE DEFICIENCY SYNDROME (AIDS) PUBLIC SAFETY AND TESTING DISCLOSURE .....	<a href="#">121050-121070</a>
CHAPTER 10. ACQUIRED IMMUNE DEFICIENCY SYNDROME (AIDS) RESEARCH CONFIDENTIALITY ACT .....	<a href="#">121075-121125</a>
CHAPTER 11. ACQUIRED IMMUNE DEFICIENCY SYNDROME (AIDS) RESEARCH AND WORKSHOP GRANTS .....	<a href="#">121150-121180</a>
CHAPTER 12. ACQUIRED IMMUNE DEFICIENCY SYNDROME (AIDS) VACCINE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT GRANT PROGRAM .....	<a href="#">121200-121225</a>
CHAPTER 13. ACQUIRED IMMUNE DEFICIENCY SYNDROME (AIDS) IMMUNIZATION .....	<a href="#">121250-121280</a>
CHAPTER 13.5. DISEASE PREVENTION DEMONSTRATION PROJECT .....	<a href="#">121285</a>
CHAPTER 13.7. STATEWIDE AFRICAN-AMERICAN INITIATIVE .....	<a href="#">121290-121290.9</a>
CHAPTER 14. ACQUIRED IMMUNE DEFICIENCY SYNDROME (AIDS) CLINICAL TRIAL GRANT AWARD FOR THE PREVENTION OF MATERNAL TRANSMISSION OF HUMAN IMMUNODEFICIENCY VIRUS (HIV) INFECTION .....	<a href="#">121300-121335</a>
CHAPTER 15. HIV REPORTING SYSTEMS .....	<a href="#">121340</a>
CHAPTER 16. THERAPEUTIC MONITORING PROGRAM .....	<a href="#">121345</a>
CHAPTER 17. POST-EXPOSURE PROPHYLAXIS .....	<a href="#">121348-121348.2</a>
CHAPTER 18. CLEAN NEEDLE AND SYRINGE EXCHANGE PROGRAM ..	<a href="#">121349-121349.3</a>

PART 5. TUBERCULOSIS	
CHAPTER 1. TUBERCULOSIS CONTROL .....	<a href="#">121350-121460</a>
CHAPTER 2. TUBERCULOSIS TESTS FOR PUPILS .....	<a href="#">121475-121520</a>
CHAPTER 3. TUBERCULOSIS TESTS FOR EMPLOYEES .....	<a href="#">121525-121555</a>
PART 6. VETERINARY PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY	
CHAPTER 1. RABIES CONTROL .....	<a href="#">121575-121710</a>
CHAPTER 2. AVIAN ZONOSIS CONTROL .....	<a href="#">121745-121765</a>
CHAPTER 3. IMPORTATION OF WILD ANIMALS	
Article 1. General .....	<a href="#">121775-121800</a>
Article 2. Permits .....	<a href="#">121825-121845</a>
Article 3. Regulation and Enforcement .....	<a href="#">121850-121870</a>
CHAPTER 4. ANIMAL CONTROL .....	<a href="#">121875-121945</a>
CHAPTER 5. SALE OF DOGS AND CATS	
Article 1. Sale of Dogs by Breeders .....	<a href="#">122045-122110</a>
Article 2. Retail Sale of Dogs and Cats .....	<a href="#">122125-122220</a>
Article 3. Dog Pedigree Registries .....	<a href="#">122300-122315</a>
CHAPTER 6. SALE OF BIRDS .....	<a href="#">122320-122324</a>
CHAPTER 7. SPAY/NEUTER AND BREEDING PROGRAMS FOR ANIMALS ..	<a href="#">122330-122331</a>
<b>CHAPTER 8. DOG TETHERING.....</b>	<b>12235</b>

**AMENDED IN SENATE May 26, 2006**

BILL NUMBER: SB 1578 AMENDED

BILL TEXT

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY AUGUST 14, 2006

AMENDED IN SENATE MAY 26, 2006

AMENDED IN SENATE APRIL 20, 2006

AMENDED IN SENATE MARCH 27, 2006

INTRODUCED BY Senator Lowenthal

(Principal coauthor: Assembly Member Koretz)

( *Coauthor: Assembly Member Levine* )

FEBRUARY 23, 2006

An act to add Chapter 8 (commencing with Section 122335) to Part 6 of Division 105 of the Health and Safety Code, relating to dogs.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 1578, as amended, Lowenthal Dogs: tethering prohibition.

Existing law contains various provisions relating to the health, safety, and humane treatment of animals, such as birds, horses and other equines, and animals performing in traveling circuses and carnivals.

This bill, with specified exceptions, would prohibit a person from tethering, fastening, chaining, tying, or restraining a dog to a dog house, tree, fence, or other stationary object.

This bill would make a violation of its provisions an infraction or a misdemeanor. By making a violation of its provisions a crime, this bill would impose a state-mandated local program. This bill would provide that it is not to be construed to prevent a person from walking a dog with a hand-held leash.

The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement.

This bill would provide that no reimbursement is required by this act for a specified reason.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.  
State-mandated local program: yes.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. Chapter 8 (commencing with Section 122335) is added to Part 6 of Division 105 of the Health and Safety Code, to read:

CHAPTER 8. Dog Tethering

122335. (a) For purposes of this chapter, the following terms shall have the following definitions:

(1) "Animal control" means the municipal or county animal control agency or any other entity responsible for enforcing animal-related laws.

*(2) "Agricultural operation" means an activity that is necessary for the commercial growing and harvesting of crops or the raising of livestock or poultry.*

~~(2)~~

(3) "Person" means any individual, partnership, corporation, organization, trade or professional association, firm, limited liability company, joint venture, association, trust, estate, or any other legal entity, and any officer, member, shareholder, director, employee, agent, or representative thereof.

~~(3)~~

(4) "Reasonable period" means a period of time not to exceed three hours in a 24-hour period, or a time that is otherwise approved by animal control.

(b) No person shall tether, fasten, chain, tie, or restrain a dog, or cause a dog to be tethered, fastened, chained, tied, or restrained, to a dog house, tree, fence, or any other stationary object.

(c) Notwithstanding subdivision (b), a person may do any of the following in accordance with Section 597t of the Penal Code:

(1) Attach a dog to a running line, pulley, or trolley system. A dog shall not be tethered to the running line, pulley, or trolley system by means of a choke collar or pinch collar.

(2) Tether, fasten, chain, tie, or otherwise restrain a dog pursuant to the requirements of a camping or recreational area.

(3) Tether, fasten, chain, ~~tie, or restrain~~ *or tie* a dog no longer than is necessary for the person to complete a temporary task that requires the dog to be restrained for a reasonable period.

(4) Tether, fasten, chain, or tie a dog while engaged in, or actively training for, an activity that is conducted pursuant to a valid license issued by the State of California if the activity for which the license is issued is associated with the use or presence of a dog. For purposes of this paragraph, dogs shall not be left unattended.

*(5) (A) Tether, fasten, chain, or tie a dog while actively engaged in any of the following activities, providing the activity is necessary in the course and scope of the person's business:*

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*(B) For purposes of this paragraph, the dog shall be monitored regularly and ensured access to adequate food, water, and shelter,*

consistent with the requirements of Section 597t of the Penal Code.

(d) A person who violates this chapter is guilty of an infraction or a misdemeanor.

(1) An infraction under this chapter is punishable upon conviction by a fine of up to two hundred fifty dollars (\$250) as to each dog with respect to which a violation occurs.

(2) A misdemeanor under this chapter is punishable upon conviction by a fine of up to one thousand dollars (\$1,000) as to each dog with respect to which a violation occurs, or imprisonment in a county jail for not more than six months, or both.

(e) Nothing in this chapter shall be construed to prohibit a person from walking a dog with a hand-held leash.

SEC. 2. No reimbursement is required by this act pursuant to Section 6 of Article XIII B of the California Constitution because the only costs that may be incurred by a local agency or school district will be incurred because this act creates a new crime or infraction, eliminates a crime or infraction, or changes the penalty for a crime or infraction, within the meaning of Section 17556 of the Government Code, or changes the definition of a crime within the meaning of Section 6 of Article XIII B of the California Constitution.

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Existing law contains various provisions relating to the health, safety, and humane treatment of animals, such as birds, horses and other equines, and animals performing in traveling circuses and carnivals.

This bill, with specified exceptions, would prohibit a person from tethering, fastening, chaining, tying, or restraining a dog to a dog house, tree, fence, or other stationary object.

This bill would make a violation of its provisions an infraction or a misdemeanor ~~and would require that a county use fines collected under the bill for animal control purposes~~. By making a violation of its provisions a crime, this bill would impose a state-mandated local program. This bill would provide that it is not to be construed to prevent a person from walking a dog with a hand-held leash.

The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the

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~~(e) Any funds collected under this chapter shall only be used by the county for animal control purposes.~~

~~(f)~~

(e) Nothing in this chapter shall be construed to prohibit a person from walking a dog with a hand-held leash.

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