

2015 -- H 6094

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2015

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A N A C T

RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT - DEPARTMENT OF  
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT - PETS

Introduced By: Representatives Trillo, Shekarchi, Costa, Chippendale, and Giarrusso

Date Introduced: April 16, 2015

Referred To: House Environment and Natural Resources

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 42-17.1-45 of the General Laws in Chapter 42-17.1 entitled  
2 "Department of Environmental Management" is hereby amended to read as follows:

3 **42-17.1-45. No prohibition on pets.** -- (a) Notwithstanding any provision of this chapter  
4 to the contrary, the department shall not promulgate or enforce any rule or regulation that would  
5 prohibit a pet dog or cat from accompanying its owner or caretaker at any state owned  
6 campground.

7 (b) Notwithstanding any provision of this chapter to the contrary, the department shall not  
8 promulgate, or enforce any rule or regulation that would prohibit any domesticated birds, turtles  
9 weighing less than two (2) pounds, gerbils, and goldfish from accompanying its owner or  
10 caretaker at any state owned campground, provided that such domesticated birds, turtles, gerbils,  
11 or goldfish are confined in a motor vehicle or camper occupying a portion of the campground.

12 (c) Notwithstanding any provision of this section to the contrary, nothing in this section  
13 shall prohibit a department of environmental management employee from deeming a pet a  
14 nuisance and requiring its owner or caretaker to remove it from any state-owned campground.

15 ~~(b)~~(d) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (a) of this section, nothing in this  
16 section shall be deemed to allow pets within any state beach facility that includes a bathing beach  
17 licensed by the department of health pursuant to chapter 21 of title 23, unless the bathing beach  
18 portion of the facility is sufficiently isolated from other public areas within the facility.

1 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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EXPLANATION  
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
OF

A N A C T

RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT - DEPARTMENT OF  
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT - PETS

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- 1           This act would allow domesticated birds, small turtles, gerbils, and goldfish to
- 2 accompany their owners at state-owned campgrounds.
- 3           This act would take effect upon passage.

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