SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL Snohomish County, Washington



EMERGENCY ORDINANCE NO. 89 - 171

LATE PENALTY AMNESTY FOR PET LICENSES; AMENDING SNOHOMISH COUNTY CODE CHAPTER 9.04; DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

WHEREAS, failure of dog owners to license their pets detracts from Snohomish County Animal Control's ability to reunite lost pets with their owners, increases staff time related to caring for lost animals, interferes with the ability of Animal Control to monitor the county's dog population and results in the destruction of a number of pets who cannot be reunited with their owners;

WHEREAS, an amnesty program allows pet owners the opportunity to renew expired pet licenses without penalty and will thus encourage pet owners to act responsibly and license their pets;

NOW THEREFORE,

BE IT ORDAINED:

<u>Section 1</u>. Snohomish County Code Section 9.04.060, adopted by Ordinance 86.099 on November 12, 1986, is amended as follows:

9.04.060 Late Penalties.

- (1) A late penalty shall be charged on all dog license applications submitted after February 28, of each year as set out in this section.
- (2) The late penalty shall be ten dollars per dog if the application is submitted during the month of March; twenty dollars per dog if the application is submitted during the month of April; and thirty dollars if the application is submitted during or after the month of may.
- (3) A late penalty shall not be charged if an application is submitted within thirty days after the date the dog is acquired, becomes an adult, or enters the unincorporated area of the county.
- (4) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsections (1) and (2) above, no late penalty shall be imposed for dog license applications submitted between December 13, 1989 and December 31, 1989. The late penalty provisions of this section shall remain in effect at all other times.

Section 2. Effective Date - Emergency Declared.

The Council finds as a fact that it is necessary to create an amnesty period from the imposition of late penalties for dog licenses in December, 1989, in order to encourage the licensing of dogs within the county to the maximum extent possible.

The Council further finds that insufficient time exists to enact this ordinance as a regular ordinance prior to the end of December, 1989.

Based upon the foregoing, the Council finds and declares that an emergency exists and that this ordinance is necessary for the immediate preservation of public health and safety and for the support of county government and its existing public institutions. Therefore, this ordinance shall be effective immediately.

PASSED this 344 day of County Council SNOHOMISH COUNTY, WASHINGTON

ATTEST:

Approved As To Form:

Deputy Prosecuting Attorney

() APPROVED

() DENIED

() EMERGENCY

DATE:

JOHN MARTINIS
Deputy Executive

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PUBLISHED