
HOUSE BILL 1831

State of Washington

61st Legislature

2009 Regular Session

By Representatives Short, Williams, Johnson, Campbell, Blake, Warnick, McCune, Kretz, and Kristiansen

Read first time 01/30/09. Referred to Committee on Local Government & Housing.

1 AN ACT Relating to the rights of pet and livestock owners residing
2 in unincorporated areas subject to annexation by a city or town; adding
3 a new section to chapter 35.10 RCW; and adding a new section to chapter
4 35A.14 RCW.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 35.10 RCW
7 to read as follows:

8 (1) Notwithstanding any city or town ordinance in effect at the
9 time of an annexation, or thereafter, pertaining to pet or livestock
10 ownership, a property owner residing in the unincorporated area that is
11 annexed retains the right to own and possess a pet or pets or livestock
12 lawfully in his or her possession at the time of the annexation,
13 subject to the following conditions:

14 (a) After the annexation the possession of the pet or pets or
15 livestock continues to be in accordance with the pertinent statutes and
16 county ordinances in effect at the time of annexation;

17 (b) The right of a property owner to possess a specific type of pet
18 under this section continues only as long as the pet owned at the time
19 of the annexation remains alive; and

1 (c) The possession of the pet or pets or livestock does not violate
2 the provisions of chapter 16.30 RCW, regarding potentially dangerous
3 wild animals.

4 (2) The right to the possession of livestock under subsection (1)
5 of this section continues for so long as the original property owner or
6 his or her immediate family members retain ownership of the property.
7 If the property owner is a business entity, the right to retain
8 possession of livestock under subsection (1) of this section continues
9 for so long as the property remains under the ownership of the same
10 entity.

11 (3) For the purposes of this section, "pet" means a domesticated or
12 tamed animal that is not owned for a commercial, breeding, or business
13 purpose and which is not otherwise prohibited under chapter 16.30 RCW.

14 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 35A.14 RCW
15 to read as follows:

16 (1) Notwithstanding any city or town ordinance in effect at the
17 time of an annexation, or thereafter, pertaining to pet or livestock
18 ownership, a property owner residing in the unincorporated area that is
19 annexed retains the right to own and possess a pet or pets or livestock
20 lawfully in his or her possession at the time of the annexation,
21 subject to the following conditions:

22 (a) After the annexation the possession of the pet or pets or
23 livestock continues to be in accordance with the pertinent statutes and
24 county ordinances in effect at the time of annexation;

25 (b) The right of a property owner to possess a specific type of pet
26 under this section continues only as long as the pet owned at the time
27 of the annexation remains alive; and

28 (c) The possession of the pet or pets or livestock does not violate
29 the provisions of chapter 16.30 RCW, regarding potentially dangerous
30 wild animals.

31 (2) The right to the possession of livestock under subsection (1)
32 of this section continues for so long as the original property owner or
33 his or her immediate family members retain ownership of the property.
34 If the property owner is a business entity, the right to retain
35 possession of livestock under subsection (1) of this section continues
36 for so long as the property remains under the ownership of the same
37 entity.

1 (3) For the purposes of this section, "pet" means a domesticated or
2 tamed animal that is not owned for a commercial, breeding, or business
3 purpose and which is not otherwise prohibited under chapter 16.30 RCW.

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