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State of Minnesota

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NINETY-THIRD SESSION

H. F. No. 4288

02/26/2024

Authored by Myers

The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Judiciary Finance and Civil Law

1.1 A bill for an act
1.2 relating to animals; requiring notice of an estray; specifying civil liabilities;
1.3 proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 346.

1.4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

1.5 Section 1. **[346.021] FINDER TO GIVE NOTICE; PENALTY.**

1.6 A person who finds an estray and knows who owns the estray must: (1) notify the estray's
1.7 owner within seven days after finding the estray; and (2) request that the owner pay all
1.8 reasonable charges and take the estray away. A finder who does not know who owns an
1.9 estray must: (1) within ten days, file a notice with the town or city clerk; and (2) post a
1.10 physical or online notice of the finding of the estray. The notice must briefly describe the
1.11 estray or provide a photograph of the estray, provide the residence or contact information
1.12 of the finder, and provide the approximate location and time when the finder found the
1.13 estray. For the failure to give the notice required by this section, the finder is liable to the
1.14 owner of the estray in double the amount of damages sustained by the owner.

1.15 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective August 1, 2024.