

AN ACT

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

To amend Title 18 of the District of Columbia Municipal Regulations to authorize an animal control officer to operate emergency lights and sirens when responding to an animal-related emergency, and to require emergency vehicle operation training for animal care and control officers.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this act may be cited as the “Animal Sirens Amendment Act of 2014”.

Sec. 2. Title 18 of the District of Columbia Municipal Regulations (18 DCMR) is amended as follows:

(a) Section 712 (18 DCMR § 712) is amended as follows:

(1) Subsection 712.1 is amended to read as follows:

“712.1 The Director may register as an authorized emergency vehicle the following:

“(a) Vehicles of a fire or police department;

“(b) An ambulance;

“(c) An official government-owned vehicle used for the emergency care or preservation of life, health, and property; and

“(d) An official vehicle operated by the Animal Care and Control Agency, established in section 3 of the Animal Control Act of 1979, effective October 18, 1979 (D.C. Law 3-30; D.C. Official Code § 8-1802), used for responding to an animal-related emergency.”.

(2) A new subsection 712.8 is added to read as follows:

“712.8 An animal control officer shall not operate a vehicle in accordance with this section until the officer has received comprehensive training in the areas of liability, driving skills and decision making, and emergency vehicle operation as determined by the Metropolitan Police Department.”.

(b) Section 9901.1 (18 DCMR § 9901.1) is amended by adding a new definition between “Alley” and “Appeals Board” to read as follows:

“Animal-Related Emergency – an urgent situation, as deemed by an officer of the Metropolitan Police Department or the Animal Care and Control Agency, where, for example, an animal may be dangerous to humans or other animals or where a dead or injured animal is obstructing a public space or roadway.”.

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Sec. 3. Fiscal impact statement.

The Council adopts the fiscal impact statement in the committee report as the fiscal impact statement required by section 602(c)(3) of the District of Columbia Home Rule Act, approved December 24, 1973 (87 Stat. 813; D.C. Official Code § 1-206.02(c)(3)).

Sec. 4. Effective date.

This act shall take effect following approval by the Mayor (or in the event of veto by the Mayor, action by the Council to override the veto), a 30-day period of congressional review as provided in section 602(c)(1) of the District of Columbia Home Rule Act, approved December 24, 1973 (87 Stat. 813; D.C. Official Code § 1-206.02(c)(1)), and publication in the District of Columbia Register.

Chairman
Council of the District of Columbia

Mayor
District of Columbia