

2017 -- H 6034

LC002269

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2017

A N A C T

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

Introduced By: Representatives Shanley, Bennett, Regunberg, Blazejewski, and Tanzi

Date Introduced: March 30, 2017

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.**

4 (a) Notwithstanding any provision of this chapter to the contrary, the department shall not  
5 promulgate or enforce any rule or regulation that would prohibit a pet dog or cat from  
6 accompanying its owner or caretaker at any state owned campground.

7 (b) Notwithstanding any provision of this chapter or any of the applicable provisions of  
8 chapters 1, 4, and 11 of title 4 to the contrary, the department shall not prohibit any domesticated  
9 psittacine birds as defined in §4-11-1 from accompanying its owner or caretaker at any state-  
10 owned campground, provided that there are no greater than two (2) domesticated psittacine birds  
11 per campsite and the domesticated psittacine birds are confined at all times in a recreational  
12 vehicle or camper occupying a campsite.

13 (c) Notwithstanding any provision of this section to the contrary, nothing in this section  
14 shall prohibit a department of environmental management employee from:

15 (1) Deeming a pet a nuisance and requiring its owner or caretaker to remove it from any  
16 state-owned campground;

17 (2) Enforcing the provisions of chapter 11 of title 4 relating to psittacine birds; or

18 (3) Implementing any emergency restrictions of local, state or federal government

1 [establishing a control zone for animal disease response.](#)

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

6 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  
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- 1           This act would allow psittacine birds (parrots and parakeets) to accompany their owners
- 2           at state-owned campgrounds, subject to the restrictions enumerated.
- 3           This act would take effect upon passage.

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