



**SUPPLEMENT No. 2**

TO

**THE CYPRUS GAZETTE No. 3847 OF 11TH AUGUST, 1955.  
LEGISLATION.**

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**THE STATUTE LAWS OF CYPRUS**

**No. 31 OF 1955.**

A LAW TO CONSOLIDATE AND AMEND THE LAW RELATING TO THE  
LICENSING AND CONTROL OF DOGS IN ALL PLACES IN THE COLONY.

R. P. ARMITAGE,]  
*Governor.*

[*5th August, 1955.*

**BE** it enacted by His Excellency the Governor and  
Commander-in-Chief of the Colony of Cyprus as  
follows :—

1. This Law may be cited as the Dogs Law, 1955.

Short title.

Interpretation.

2. In this Law, unless the context otherwise requires—

“ appropriate authority ” means—

- (a) in any area of a municipal corporation the municipal council of such corporation or any person appointed or authorized in that behalf by such council ;
- (b) in an improvement area the Board established for such area under the Villages (Administration and Improvement) Laws, 1950 and 1953, or any person appointed or authorized in that behalf by such Board ;
- (c) in all other places the mukhtar of the quarter or village ;

“ authorized person ” means any person appointed by the appropriate authority to exercise powers and perform duties under the provisions of the Law ;

“ cattle ” includes horses, mules, donkeys, goats, sheep and swine ;

“ dog ” includes bitch but does not include an unweaned puppy ;

“ owner ”, in relation to a dog, includes any person by whom the dog is being kept ;

“ prescribed ” means prescribed by the appropriate authority by notice in the *Gazette*.

“ stray dog ” means a dog found wandering on a public road or in any other place to which the public has access without proper control and creating a nuisance ;

12 of 1950  
18 of 1950  
31 of 1953

Application of Law.

3. The provisions of this Law shall apply to all places in the Colony.

Licence to keep dog.  
First Schedule.

4.—(1) No person shall keep a dog unless he has obtained a licence in that behalf from the appropriate authority in the form set out in the First Schedule.

(2) Every licence shall expire on the 31st day of December in the year in which it is issued.

(3) There shall be paid into the Fund or revenue of the appropriate authority for every licence the fees set out in the Second Schedule.

Second Schedule.

(4) The appropriate authority shall keep a register specifying the name, address and occupation of each person to whom, and the number or class of dogs in respect of which, a licence is issued.

(5) Where the holder of any licence issued under this section sells or parts with the ownership of the dog in respect of which the licence was issued to any other person, such licence may, on the joint application of such holder and of such other person, be transferred by endorsement thereon to the name of such other person for the unexpired period thereof, and no fee shall be charged in respect of any such transfer.

Refusal of  
licence in  
certain cases.

5.—(1) The appropriate authority may refuse to grant a licence to any person or may withdraw any licence granted to any person to keep a dog for any of the following reasons :—

- (a) that the dog is shown to be dangerous to members of the public or to cattle or domestic animals, or is a public nuisance ;
- (b) that the person who has applied for a licence has been convicted of an offence under the Cruelty to Animals Law or any Law amending or substituted for the same ;
- (c) that the dog is kept under conditions which are dangerous to public health.

Cap. 68.  
18 of 1954

(2) Any person whose licence to keep a dog has been refused or withdrawn shall forthwith deliver such dog to the appropriate authority for disposal or destruction by the said authority in such manner as may be prescribed, and, if he fails so to do, such dog may be seized and detained for such disposal or destruction :

Provided that no such dog shall be disposed of or destroyed until the expiration of seven days from such refusal or withdrawal of the licence or, in the case of an appeal to the Commissioner, until his decision thereon has been given upholding the decision of the appropriate authority to refuse the grant or withdrawal of the licence.

(3) Any person aggrieved by—

- (a) the refusal of the appropriate authority to grant a licence ;
- (b) the withdrawal of a licence,

may, within seven days from the date of such refusal or withdrawal, appeal in writing to the Commissioner and shall, within the period aforesaid, serve a copy of the appeal on the appropriate authority.

(4) The decision of the Commissioner on any such appeal shall be final.

6.—(1) The appropriate authority shall supply the licensee, free of charge, with a badge to be worn by the dog for which the licence is issued.

Badges

(2) If it is proved to the appropriate authority that a badge supplied under the provisions of sub-section (1) has been lost or destroyed, the appropriate authority shall, upon payment of 50 mils, issue to the licensee a duplicate badge.

(3) The licensee shall return such badge to the appropriate authority if he ceases to keep the dog in respect of which the badge has been issued, or if the dog dies during the currency of the licence.

(4) Every licensee shall, within a reasonable time after demand, produce his licence for inspection by any person authorized by the appropriate authority or by any member of the Cyprus Police Force.

7.—(1) Any person who—

- (a) keeps a dog without a licence ;
- (b) keeps a dog in contravention of any section of this Law ;
- (c) does any act with intent to, or which is likely to, defraud the appropriate authority in the registration or control of dogs in pursuance of this Law ;

Offences and  
penalty.

- (d) within any municipal or improvement area causes or allows a bitch while in heat to be on any public road or in any place to which the public have access or on any premises other than the premises on which the bitch is being kept or is for the time being allowed to remain, unless the bitch is on a leash and is under control ;
- (e) within a municipal or improvement area permits, suffers or allows his dog to wander or be found in public places or on a public road without proper control and in circumstances which make it a nuisance ;
- (f) within a municipal or improvement area permits, suffers or allows his dog or any dog for which he is for the time being responsible, to make a noise by barking which is so loud and so continuous or repeated as to cause a nuisance to occupants or inmates of any premises in the neighbourhood,

shall be guilty of an offence against this Law and shall be liable to a fine not exceeding twenty-five pounds.

Destruction  
of unlicensed  
dogs, etc.

8. Subject to the provisions of sub-section (2) of section 5, every dog—

- (a) found wandering within any place in the Colony not wearing a badge in the prescribed form ; or
- (b) in respect of which a licence has been refused or withdrawn,

may be seized and disposed of in such manner as may be prescribed or, subject to the provisions of sub-section 2 of section 9, destroyed by the Chief Veterinary Officer or by such person as the appropriate authority may prescribe.

Stray dogs.

9.—(1) Any stray dog found anywhere in the Colony other than in a village area shall be seized and detained in accordance with the provisions of this section by any authorized person who shall forthwith report such detention to the appropriate authority and thereupon the following provisions shall apply, that is to say :—

(a)—(i) In the case of a dog wearing its badge or of a dog not wearing a badge but whose owner is known or is likely to be easily found, the appropriate authority shall cause a notice to be sent to the registered or likely owner in the form and to the effect set out in the Third Schedule.

Third  
Schedule.

(ii) Within four days from the giving of the notice, unless in the meantime the dog is claimed and the charges in respect thereof in accordance with the notice are paid (hereinafter referred to as “the statutory charge”) as published in the *Gazette* from time to time, the appropriate authority may cause the dog to be disposed of or destroyed in such manner as may be prescribed.

(iii) Where a dog has been disposed of or destroyed in pursuance of the last foregoing sub-paragraph the owner of the dog shall be liable to pay to the appropriate authority the statutory charge

accruing in respect of the detention of the dog and also, where the dog has been destroyed as aforesaid, the amount of any expenses in respect of its destruction :

Provided that where the dog has been disposed of in pursuance of the last foregoing sub-section the amount of the proceeds of the sale shall be set off against the amount of the statutory charge falling to be paid to the appropriate authority, so, however, that where the amount of the proceeds of the sale exceeds the amount of the statutory charges the surplus shall not be paid to the owner but shall be paid to the funds of the appropriate authority.

(iv) All sums which fall to be paid by any person to the appropriate authority under this Law shall be recoverable in the form of civil action at the suit of the appropriate authority.

(b) In the case of a dog not wearing its badge and whose owner is not known or likely to be easily found, the dog shall be detained for a period of not less than 48 hours after which if the dog is still unclaimed it shall be disposed of or destroyed in such manner as may be prescribed.

(2) Notwithstanding anything contained in sub-section (1) every stray dog found in the Colony anywhere other than in a municipal or improvement area not wearing a badge in the prescribed form may be destroyed by shooting by any member of the Cyprus Police Force authorized in this respect by the Commissioner of Police, or by such other person as may be authorized by the Governor. No compensation shall be payable in respect of the destruction of a dog in pursuance of this sub-section.

10.—(1) In this section the expression “ approved trap ” means a trap of such nature and construction as to satisfy the Chief Veterinary Officer that its use will not cause physical pain or suffering to any dog captured thereby or coming into contact therewith. Trapping.

(2) It shall be lawful for the appropriate authority and the Commissioner of Police, or for any person authorized by them to act under sub-section (1), to cause approved traps, as may be prescribed, to be placed and set or used for the purpose of capturing stray or unlicensed dogs in Cyprus.

(3) Any dog captured by means of an approved trap shall, for the purposes of sub-section (1) of section 9, be deemed to be a stray dog.

11. This Law shall come into operation on a date to be fixed by the Governor by notice published in the *Gazette* and thereupon the Laws set out in column 1 of the Fourth Schedule shall be repealed to the extent shown in column 2 thereof :

Date of coming into operation and repeal. Fourth Schedule.

Provided that any licence granted under any of the Laws hereby repealed shall, until expired or cancelled, be deemed to have been granted under the provisions of this Law.

## FIRST SCHEDULE.—(Section 4 (1)).

*The Dogs Law, 1955.*

## LICENCE.

No. .... of ..... Badge No. ....

APPROPRIATE AUTHORITY OF THE VILLAGE/THE VILLAGE HEALTH AREA/THE IMPROVEMENT  
AREA/THE MUNICIPAL AREA OF .....Licence is hereby granted to .....  
of ..... to keep the following dog :—

Sex .....

Colour .....

Distinguishing marks (if any) .....

Breed or type .....

FEE PAID.

This licence expires on the 31st day of December, 195.....

Dated the..... day of ....., 195.....

*Signature and Seal of the Appropriate Authority* .....

Renewed on ..... to expire on 31st December, 195.....

*Signature and Seal of the Appropriate Authority* .....

## SECOND SCHEDULE.—(Section 4 (3)).

## LICENSING FEES UNDER SECTION 4 (3).

	<i>Dog.</i>	<i>Bitch.</i>	<i>Spayed bitch.</i>
	<i>mils</i>	<i>mils</i>	<i>mils</i>
1. Municipal areas .. .. .	35°	75°	35°
2. Villages where the Villages (Administration and Improvement) Laws apply .. .. .	35°	75°	35°
3. Villages other than those referred to in item 2 above .. .. .	15°	30°	15°

Provided that, where the appropriate authority is the mukhtar, out of the fee payable the mukhtar shall retain a fee of one shilling in respect of every licence issued by him.

## THIRD SCHEDULE.—(Section 9).

*The Dogs Law, 1955.*

## NOTICE UNDER SECTION 9.

To .....

Please take notice that a dog/bitch coloured ....., breed .....,  
and wearing the prescribed badge No. .... /not wearing a badge has been seized  
and detained as a stray dog under and by virtue of the Dogs Law, 1954, and is liable to  
destruction or disposal, within four days from the service of this notice, unless in the  
meantime you claim it and pay all legal charges for its detention.

In any event you will be liable to pay the legal charges for the maintenance of the dog as laid down in section 9 (a) (ii) for four days from the notice hereof and all expenses incurred in the destruction thereof.

(Sgd.).....

*The Appropriate Authority.*

FOURTH SCHEDULE.—(Section 11).

Column one.	Column two.
1. Municipal Corporations Law (Cap. 252 and Laws 11 of 1950, 31 of 1951, 20 of 1953, 29 of 1954, 57 of 1954 and 14 of 1955).	Sections 123 (1) (g), 175 to 181 (both inclusive).
2. Villages (Administration and Improvement) Laws, 1950 and 1953.	Section 21 (da) and (j).
3. Dogs Law (Cap. 81).	The whole.

5th August, 1955.

J. W. SYKES,  
*Acting Colonial Secretary.*