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**HOUSE BILL NO. 2296**

House Amendments in [ ] - February 2, 2007

A *BILL to amend and reenact § 3.1-796.85 of the Code of Virginia, relating to the licensure of cats and dogs.*

Patron Prior to Engrossment—Delegate McClellan

Referred to Committee on Agriculture, Chesapeake and Natural Resources

**Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**

**1. That § 3.1-796.85 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:**

§ 3.1-796.85. Unlicensed dogs prohibited; local ordinances for licensing cats.

A. It shall be unlawful for any person *other than a releasing agency [ that has registered as such annually with local animal control ]* to own a dog four months old or older in this Commonwealth unless such dog is licensed, as required by the provisions of this article.

B. The governing body of any county, city or town may, by local ordinance, prohibit any person *other than a releasing agency [ that has registered as such annually with local animal control ]* from owning a cat four months *old* or older within such locality unless such cat is licensed as provided by this article.

ENGROSSED

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