

**THE MAURITIUS SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS (OFFICERS' POWERS AND PROTECTION) (AMENDMENT) BILL**

(No. XLVII of 2003)

**Explanatory Memorandum**

The object of this Bill is to provide for an efficient system of registration of dogs and to enable registered dogs to be identified by means of an electronic tag or a tattoo.

31 October 2003

**P. K. Jugnauth**  
*Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance and  
Minister of Agriculture, Food Technology  
and Natural Resources*

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**ARRANGEMENT OF CLAUSES**

*Clause*

1. Short title
2. Interpretation
3. Section 2 of principal Act amended
4. Section 3 of principal Act repealed and replaced
5. Section 6A of principal Act amended
6. Section 7 of principal Act amended
7. Schedule to principal Act repealed and replaced
8. Commencement

# A BILL

## To amend the Mauritius Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (Officers' Powers and Protection) Act

ENACTED by the Parliament of Mauritius, as follows-

### 1. Short title

This Act may be cited as the Mauritius Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (Officers' Powers and Protection) (Amendment) Act 2003.

### 2. Interpretation

In this Act -

“principal Act” means the Mauritius Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (Officers' Powers and Protection) Act.

### 3. Section 2 of principal Act amended

Section 2 of the principal Act is amended -

- (a) by deleting the definition of “hunting dog”;
- (b) by inserting, in their appropriate alphabetical order, the following new definitions -

“electronic tag” means an electronic device implanted under the skin of a dog for identification purposes;

“registered dog” means a dog which has been registered under section 3;

“tattoo” means an indelible mark made on the skin of a dog for identification purposes.

### 4. Section 3 of principal Act repealed and replaced

Section 3 of the principal Act is repealed and replaced by the following section -

#### 3. Registration of dogs

- (1) Every owner of a dog shall -
  - (a) where the dog is of the age of 3 months or over, not later than 15 days of becoming the owner;

- (b) where the dog is under the age of 3 months, not later than 15 days after the dog has attained the age of 3 months,

cause it to be registered with the Society on payment of the fee specified in item 1 of the Schedule.

- (2) (a) Where a dog is registered with the Society, the Society shall cause the dog to be identified by means of an electronic tag or a tattoo in such a manner and at such part of the body as the Society thinks fit.
- (b) The Society shall, on registration of a dog, issue to the owner of the dog a numbered disc bearing the same number as the electronic tag or the tattoo.
- (c) Every owner of a dog which has already been registered with the Society before the commencement of this Act, shall cause the dog to be electronically tagged or tattooed by the Society within a period of 6 months as from the commencement of this Act on payment of the fee specified in item 2 of the Schedule.

(3) Where the numbered disc issued in respect of a registered dog is lost, destroyed or damaged, the owner of the dog shall forthwith report the fact to the Society and the Society shall thereupon issue a new disc on payment of the fee specified in item 3 of the Schedule.

(4) Every owner of a registered dog shall at all times cause the dog to carry a collar and the numbered disc issued by the Society.

(5) Any person who fails to comply with this section shall commit an offence and shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine of not less than 1,000 rupees and not more than 5,000 rupees.

## **5. Section 6A of principal Act amended**

Section 6A of the principal Act is amended -

- (a) in subsection (2)(b), by deleting the words “Part III” and replacing them by the words “item 4”;
- (b) in subsection (6), by deleting the words “1,000 rupees” and “2,000 rupees” and replacing them by the words “2,000 rupees” and “10,000 rupees” respectively;
- (c) in subsection (7)(a), by adding after the word “premises” the words, “for commercial purposes”.

**6. Section 7 of principal Act amended**

Section 7 of the principal Act is amended in subsection (2), by deleting the words “500 rupees” and “1,000 rupees” and replacing them by the words “1,000 rupees” and “5,000 rupees” respectively.

**7. Schedule to principal Act repealed and replaced**

The Schedule to the principal Act is repealed and replaced by the Schedule to this Act.

**8. Commencement**

This Act shall come into operation on a date to be fixed by Proclamation.

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**SCHEDULE**

*(section 7)*

**SCHEDULE**

*(sections 3 and 6A)*

**FEE PAYABLE**

	Rs
<b>ITEM</b>	
1. Registration of a dog	250
2. Cost for an electronic tag or a tattoo	150
3. Replacement of a disc	150
4. Registration of a dog breeder	2,000 per annum