

**Amendment to LD 103**  
**An Act To Improve the Animal Welfare Laws**  
**Proposed by Rep. Pluecker**  
March 9, 2021

Amend the bill in section 4 as follows:

**Sec. 4.** 7 MRSA §3906-C, sub-§1, ¶I, as enacted by PL 2001, c. 399, §3, is amended to read:

I. One attorney with experience in animal welfare law or prosecutorial experience within the state court system;

Amend the bill in section 6 as follows:

**Sec. 6.** 7 MRSA §3916, sub-§1-A, as amended by PL 2007, c. 439, §8, is repealed and the following enacted in its place:

**1-A. Required for dogs.** Except as provided in subsection 4, an owner or keeper of a dog, within 30 days after the dog attains the age of over 3 months of age, shall have that dog vaccinated against rabies. The rabies vaccine must be administered by a licensed veterinarian or under the supervision of a licensed veterinarian. Upon receiving an initial vaccination, a dog is considered protected for one year and an owner or keeper of that dog shall get a booster vaccination for that dog one year after the initial vaccination and subsequent booster vaccinations at intervals that do not exceed the intervals recommended by a national association of state public health veterinarians for the type of vaccine administered. A wolf hybrid is required to be vaccinated in accordance with this subsection. The procedure prescribed under Title 22, chapter 251, subchapter 5 for a wolf hybrid suspected of having rabies does not change based on proof that the wolf hybrid has received a rabies vaccination.

**SUMMARY**

The bill allows the Animal Welfare Advisory Council to have as a member a person who is an attorney with experience in the state court system. This amendment requires that the attorney have prosecutorial experience in the state court system.

The bill also changes the rabies vaccination requirement to provide that an owner or keeper of a dog over 3 months of age must have the dog vaccinated. The amendment provides that the owner or keeper of a dog, within 30 days after the dog attains the age of 3 months, is required to have that dog vaccinated against rabies.