

should ensure that the animal does not cause harm to human life, body, or property, or become a nuisance.

2. The Prime Minister may, after consultation with the heads of the administrative organs concerned, prescribe standards applicable to the care and custody of animals.

Article 5. Local public bodies may, as provided for by ordinance, take such measures as are necessary with respect to guidance concerning care and custody of animals, so as to maintain the health and safety of the animals.

Article 6. In order to prevent harm to human life, body, or property, local public bodies may, as provided for by ordinance, prescribe matters to be observed by owners or possessors of animals concerning the care or custody of the animals and take such measures concerning the care or custody of the animals as are necessary, such as restrictions on the keeping of animals which threaten human life, body, or property.

(Taking Custody of Dogs and Cats)

Article 7. Prefectures and cities designated by Cabinet Order (hereinafter called "prefectures, etc.") shall be required to take custody of dogs or cats when so required by their owners. In such cases, the governors of the prefectures or the mayors of said cities (hereinafter called "prefectural governors, etc.") may designate the places at which the dogs or cats shall be taken into custody.

2. The provision in the preceding paragraph shall apply mutatis mutandis in cases where the prefecture, etc. is requested by the finder of a dog or cat or any other person to take custody of that dog or cat if the owner is unknown.

3. The governors of prefectures may request whatever cooperation is necessary from mayors of cities, towns and villages (with the exception of the mayors of cities designated by Cabinet Order, but including the mayors of special wards) concerning taking custody of

dogs and cats as stipulated in paragraph 1 (including cases where the preceding paragraph applies mutatis mutandis; the same shall apply hereinafter in paragraphs 6 and 7 below).

4. Prefectural governors, etc. may commission non-profit juridical persons established for the protection of animals, or other persons, to take custody of dogs and cats.

5. Prefectures, etc. may charge a fee as provided by ordinance with respect to taking custody of dogs and cats as provided in paragraph 1.

6. The Prime Minister may, after consultation with the heads of the administrative organs concerned, prescribe such matters as are necessary with respect to the measures to be taken when it is requested that dogs or cats be taken into custody as provided in paragraph 1.

7. The Government may, within the scope of the budget and as provided by Cabinet Order, grant subsidies to prefectures, etc. for the costs incurred with respect to taking custody of dogs and cats as provided in paragraph 1.

(Notification by Finders of Wounded Animals, etc.)

Article 8. Any person who finds on a road or in a park or other public place a dog or cat or other animal that is sick or wounded or the carcass of a dog or cat or other animal should promptly notify the owner when the owner is known, or the prefectural governors, etc. when the owner is unknown.

2. When notified as provided for in the preceding paragraph, the prefecture, etc. shall remove that animal or its carcass.

3. The provisions of paragraph 6 of the preceding Article shall apply mutatis mutandis to the removal of animals as provided for in the preceding paragraph.

(Restriction on Breeding of Dogs and Cats)

Article 9. When the owner of dogs or cats deems that it is liable to become difficult to care for these