

AN ORDINANCE PERTAINING TO ANIMAL TETHERING

Sponsored by: Councilor Richardson

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MOBILE, ALABAMA AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1:

Sec. 7-23. of the Mobile City Code, 1991, is hereby amended and restated in its entirety to read as follows:

Sec. 7-23. Animals at large; Tethering

a) It shall be unlawful for any Person to allow any Animal in his control or possession to go, stray or wander upon the public right of way or property of another Person. An Animal is running at large if it is not under control of the Owner and is not:

(1) Confined by an electronic collar system or within a fence, electronic fence system, wall, or other enclosure in such a manner so as to effectively prevent the Animal from traveling onto the public right of way or property of another Person;

(2) On a single Animal trolley or pulley system on a cable run that is fixed in a manner allowing smooth freedom of movement of the Animal without becoming tangled, wrapped around an object or shortened, and:

(A) is at least twelve (12) feet in length and mounted between four (4) and seven (7) feet off the ground, allowing access to a reasonable exercise area, but does not allow the Animal access to the public right of way or property of another Person;

(B) allows the Animal access to water and Shelter;

(C) is an appropriate strength and weight given the size of the Animal and is affixed to the Animal by a proper fitting nylon or leather harness or collar, all as determined by an Animal control officer, with swivel attachment; choke, pinch and prong collars are prohibited for this purpose.

b) Notwithstanding the foregoing, it shall be unlawful for any Person to place or keep a dog less than six (6) months of age on a trolley or pulley system as described in Sub-section a)(2), above, and it shall be unlawful for any Person to place or keep any Animal on such trolley or pulley system during National Weather Service Winter Storm Warnings, Tornado Warnings, Flood Warnings, Excessive Heat Warnings, Tropical Storm Warnings or Hurricane Warnings, or while the temperature is below thirty-two (32) degrees Fahrenheit.

c) Sub-section a), above, shall not apply to an Animal that is:

(1) On a leash, not more than ten (10) feet in length, secured by a harness or collar, or by an electronic collar system controlled by a Person that ensures the Animal stays within ten (10) feet of such Person, while being walked or exercised by a Person.

(2) At a designated Animal or Dog park or in attendance at any legal event in which the Animal is a permitted attendee or participant;

(3) Actively shepherding or herding cattle or livestock or assisting in cultivating agricultural products;

(4) Under the care a veterinarian or groomer;

(5) Being utilized or trained in a law enforcement or public safety capacity;

(6) Being legally used for hunting.


d) It shall be unlawful for any Person to allow any Animal in his control or possession to be tied, tethered or chained to a doghouse, tree, post, stake, barrel, or other stationary object for a total time period exceeding thirty (30) minutes per day and its Owner must be physically present at the premises where the Animal is being kept throughout such time period.

Section 2 - Miscellaneous Provisions:

(a) The provisions of this Ordinance are severable. If any part of this Ordinance is declared invalid or unconstitutional by a court of competent jurisdiction, that declaration shall not affect the part or parts that remain.

(b) This Ordinance shall become effective within the City of Mobile sixty (60) days after its adoption and publication as required by law.

Approved: FEB 09 2021



City Clerk