

**A LOCAL LAW TO AMEND THE HUDSON CITY CODE §70  
RELATING TO THE RESTRAINT OF ANIMALS**

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HUDSON AS  
FOLLOWS:**

**SECTION 1. TITLE** This Local Law shall be known as Local Law No. \_\_\_\_ for the year 2024.

**SECTION 2. LEGISLATIVE FINDINGS**

The Common Council of the City of Hudson recognizes the importance of protecting the health and welfare of animals residing in the City. The Common Council finds that it is important to maintain the safety of animals that are leashed outside in extreme conditions, for inordinate amounts of time, and/or in conditions that are detrimental to the safety of the animal(s). The Common Council finds that it is important to ensure that animals left tied to an object outside for prolonged periods have sufficient food, water or shelter from inclement weather.

**SECTION 3. LEGISLATIVE INTENT**

The purpose of this Amendment is to provide parameters governing the length of time and circumstances under which animals may be restrained outdoors to impart fines and penalties upon those persons risking the health and welfare of animals that are restrained in unsafe conditions.

**SECTION 4. STATEMENT OF AUTHORITY**

This local law is authorized by the Municipal Home Rule Law (Chapter 36-a of the Consolidated Laws of the State of New York).

**SECTION 5. AMENDMENT.** Chapter 70 of the Hudson City Code, §70-4 and 70-11 are hereby **AMENDED** by adding the following:

§ 70-4. Regulations and restrictions.

D. It shall be unlawful for any person to tether, leash, fasten, secure, restrain, chain or tie a dog to any stationary object outdoors or cause such dog to be restrained in a manner that:

- (1) Endangers such dog's health, safety or well-being;
- (2) Restricts such dog's access to suitable and sufficient food, fresh, potable water and dry ground;
- (3) Does not provide such dog with shelter appropriate to its breed, physical condition, and the climate as defined by § 353-b of the New York State Agriculture and Markets Law; or
- (4) Unreasonably limits the movement of such dog because it is too short for the dog to move around or for the dog to urinate or defecate in a separate area from the area where it must eat, drink or lie down.

(5) Allows Multiple dogs to be tethered or restrained in such a manner that they are able to come into contact with one another at any point in time while restrained.

E. Notwithstanding the provisions of Subsection D of this section, no person shall tether, leash, fasten, secure, restrain, chain or tie a dog to any object with a device that:

- (1) Is a choke collar, pinch collar, or prong collar, or a similar collar that restrains the dog in such a manner that it impairs the flow of oxygen or blood to the dog, which may cause choking or causes substantial discomfort to the dog;
- (2) Is embedded, partially embedded or may become embedded in such dog's skin;
- (3) Has weights attached or contains links that are more than 1/4 inch thick;
- (4) Weighs more than 12.5% of the dog's total body weight, not to exceed 15 pounds for any dog;
- (5) Is less than 15 feet in length;
- (6) Because of its design or placement is likely to become entangled;
- (7) Is long enough to allow such dog to move outside of its owner's property;
- (8) Would allow the restrained dog to move over an object, including any fencing, pool, barrier, or edge that could result in the strangulation of or injury to such dog; or
- (9) Is fixed (i.e., does not swivel) on either end. Restraint device must be spring loaded on both ends.

F. No person shall tether, leash, fasten, secure, restrain, chain or tie a dog to any stationary object outdoors for more than one continuous hour in any continuous twelve-hour period between the hours of 6:00 a.m. and 11:00 p.m.

G. No person shall tether, leash, fasten, secure, restrain, chain or tie a dog to any stationary object outdoors between the hours of 11:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m.

H. No person shall tether, leash, fasten, secure, restrain, chain or tie a dog to any stationary object outdoors if the dog is:

- (1) Less than six months of age without on site outdoor supervision;
- (2) Sick or injured; or
- (3) A nursing mother whose offspring is present.

I. No person shall tether, leash, fasten, secure, restrain, chain, tie, pen or otherwise confine outdoors a dog when:

- (1) The temperature is below 32° F.;
- (2) The temperature is above 90° F.;
- (3) The National Weather Service has issued a heat or wind chill advisory, storm watch or warning; or
- (4) Conditions are not appropriate due to the breed, physical condition and climate, as established pursuant to New York State Agricultural and Markets Law § 353-b.

**§ 70-11. Penalties for offenses.**

E. Each Violation of §§ 70-4(D), 70-4(E), 70-4(H), and 70-4(I) shall constitute an unclassified misdemeanor, subject to a fine of \$250 and/or imprisonment up to five days for a first offense, a fine of \$500 and/or imprisonment up to 15 days for a second offense, and a fine of \$1,000 and/or imprisonment up to 30 days for all subsequent offenses. Individuals found guilty of a third or subsequent offense may be subject to a forfeiture of the animal, at the discretion of the court which so adjudicates their guilt.

**SECTION 6. SEVERABILITY.** If any clause, sentence, paragraph, section or part of this Local Law shall be adjudged by any Court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, such judgment shall not affect, impair or invalidate the remainder thereof, but shall be confined to its operation in said clause, sentence, paragraph, section or part of this Local Law.

**SECTION 7. EFFECTIVE DATE.** This Local Law shall take effect immediately upon passage and filing with the Secretary of State.

Introduced \_\_\_\_\_

Seconded \_\_\_\_\_

Approved

By \_\_\_\_\_  
Kamal Johnson, Mayor