

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

HOUSE BILL NO. 976

91ST GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE TROUPE.

Read 1st time March 14, 2001, and 1000 copies ordered printed.

TED WEDEL, Chief Clerk

2257L.011

AN ACT

To amend chapter 578, RSMo, by adding thereto two new sections relating to dogs, with penalty provisions.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the state of Missouri, as follows:

Section A. Chapter 578, RSMo, is amended by adding thereto two new sections, to be
2 known as sections 578.028 and 578.029, to read as follows:

**578.028. 1. A person is guilty of failure to confine a dog when that person has
2 custody or ownership or both of a dog and fails to confine that dog in such a manner as to
3 prevent the dog from running freely outside of the property owned or rented by that
4 person.**

5 2. Failure to confine a dog is a class C misdemeanor.

**578.029. 1. A person does not commit failure to confine a dog pursuant to section
2 578.028 if that person:**

**3 (1) Has permission in writing from the owner or renter of the property on which
4 the dog was running freely to allow the dog to run freely on that property; or**

**5 (2) Has made a reasonable attempt to confine the dog or has successfully confined
6 the dog in the past and is unaware that this method of confinement has become
7 unsuccessful.**

**8 2. The defendant shall have the burden of injecting the issue of a defense pursuant
9 to this section.**