

**§1042. Euthanasia performed by licensed veterinarian or certified person**

The mandatory method of euthanasia of cats and dogs when conducted by a licensed veterinarian or a person certified under subsection 3 must be the administration of a barbiturate overdose. The mandatory method of euthanasia must be implemented according to the following methods and under the following conditions. [PL 1995, c. 490, §27 (AMD).]

**1. Intravenous, intraperitoneal, intrathoracic or intracardial injection.** Intravenous, intraperitoneal, intrathoracic or intracardial injection of a lethal solution may be used. [PL 1987, c. 383, §4 (NEW).]

**2. Use of undamaged hypodermic needle.** An undamaged hypodermic needle of a size suitable for the size and species of animal must be used. [PL 1995, c. 490, §27 (AMD).]

**3. Administration by a licensed veterinarian.** Administration may only be by a licensed veterinarian or by a person trained for this purpose who is certified by the commissioner and subject to regular observation concerning continued efficiency. A person certified under this subsection may only euthanize animals that are vested to an animal shelter. A person certified to perform euthanasia may not euthanize an animal if, by performing that euthanasia, the person is in violation of Title 32, chapter 71-A.

[PL 1995, c. 490, §27 (AMD).]

**4. Euthanasia solution.** A licensed animal shelter having both a consulting veterinarian and a certified euthanasia technician may purchase, store and administer euthanasia solution for the euthanasia of cats, dogs and ferrets that are vested to the shelter, provided the purchase, storage and administration is in accordance with federal requirements. The director of the licensed animal shelter, as a veterinarian, a certified euthanasia technician or an agent of the certified euthanasia technician, is the only person with the authority to purchase euthanasia solution.

[PL 1995, c. 490, §27 (NEW).]

**SECTION HISTORY**

PL 1987, c. 383, §4 (NEW). PL 1995, c. 490, §27 (AMD).

The State of Maine claims a copyright in its codified statutes. If you intend to republish this material, we require that you include the following disclaimer in your publication:

*All copyrights and other rights to statutory text are reserved by the State of Maine. The text included in this publication reflects changes made through the First Regular and First Special Session of the 131st Maine Legislature and is current through November 1, 2023. The text is subject to change without notice. It is a version that has not been officially certified by the Secretary of State. Refer to the Maine Revised Statutes Annotated and supplements for certified text.*

The Office of the Revisor of Statutes also requests that you send us one copy of any statutory publication you may produce. Our goal is not to restrict publishing activity, but to keep track of who is publishing what, to identify any needless duplication and to preserve the State's copyright rights.

PLEASE NOTE: The Revisor's Office cannot perform research for or provide legal advice or interpretation of Maine law to the public. If you need legal assistance, please contact a qualified attorney.