

NEWS FROM Legislator

Lou D'Amaro



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Almost Home Animal Rescue Group Honors Leg. D'Amaro for his Recently-Enacted Pet Tethering Legislation



(HUNTINGTON STATION, NY... December 16, 2014) – Almost Home Animal Rescue and Adoption, a 501c3 all-volunteer organization that provides services and community outreach to and for animals in need, recently honored Suffolk County Legislator Lou D'Amaro (D-Huntington Station) with its Hero Award at the non-profit's inaugural Gala.

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The award was given in recognition of Legislator D'Amaro's successful efforts to institute new safeguards and regulations on the outdoor restraint of pets.

Specifically, "A Local Law to Further Strengthen the County's Regulation on the Outdoor Restraint of Pets," was unanimously approved at the Legislature's May 13th meeting and subsequently signed into law by County Executive Steve Bellone. In 2011, Suffolk County placed several regulations relating to the outdoor tethering of animals. However, concerns were raised by numerous animal welfare groups that the regulations as written were either ineffective or did not go far enough to protect the dogs. Accordingly, Legislator D'Amaro's bill added several new regulations including the following provisions:

- No person shall tether a dog outside for more than 2 hours in any 12 hour period
- No person shall tether a dog using a device that is less than 10 feet in length
- No person shall tether a dog using a device that weighs more than 25% of the dog's total body weight, not to exceed 25 pounds for any dog
- No person shall tether a dog using a device that may become embedded in the dog's skin or restrains the dog in such a manner that it causes choking or impairs the flow of oxygen or blood to the dog

Legislator D'Amaro was presented with the award in recognition of his "commitment to animal welfare in Suffolk County" at the Almost Home Gala held November 6th at the Stonebridge Country Club in Hauppauge.

"I was truly honored to receive Almost Home's inaugural Hero Award," said Legislator D'Amaro. "After hearing from so many animal rights advocates about the sometimes torturous conditions that some pets were enduring, I felt compelled to create legislation to help protect these innocent animals. I thank the dedicated volunteers of Almost Home and all animal rights advocates for their tireless work on behalf of our four-legged friends."

For more information on Almost Home, visit their website at www.almosthomeli.org or call (631) 627-3665.