



Pet Sterilization in State and Local Law

Fifty States and the District of Columbia

State	Definition of Sterilization	Sterilization Requirements for Adoption	Licensing
Alabama	Sterilization: The surgical removal of the reproductive organs of a dog or cat in order to render the animal unable to reproduce. (Code of Ala. § 3-9-1 (4)).	Dogs and cats must be sterilized before adoption, or adopters must enter into a sterilization agreement. (Code of Ala. § 3-9-2).	Municipalities may permit a lower registration fee for sterilized animals. (See, e.g., Bay Minette, Alabama Code of Ordinances Sec. 4-64).
Alaska	No statewide definition. May be defined by local ordinance, for example: "Altered animal means any animal which has been surgically or pharmacologically sterilized." (Juneau, Alaska Code of Ordinances 08.05.010).	No sterilization requirements for adoption. Local ordinances may contain requirements. (See, e.g., Anchorage, Alaska Code of Ordinances 17.25.060).	Municipalities may permit a lower registration fee for spayed and neutered dogs. (See, e.g., Seward, Alaska Code of Ordinances 9.05.212).
Arizona	"Sterilization" means the surgical removal of the reproductive organs of a dog or cat or the use of humane nonsurgical methods and technologies approved by the Food and Drug Administration, the United States Department of Agriculture or the Environmental Protection Agency to permanently render the animal unable to reproduce. (Ariz. Rev. Stat. § 11-1022).	Dogs and cats must be sterilized before adoption. (Ariz. Rev. Stat. § 11-1022).	Counties are permitted to establish license fees that are lower for dogs "permanently incapable of procreation." (A.R.S. § 11-1008).
Arkansas	No statewide definition. May be defined by local ordinance, for example: "Sterilize means the surgical alteration of an animal through spaying or neutering so that it is incapable of reproduction." (Little Rock, Arkansas Code of Ordinances Sec. 6-1).	Dogs and cats must be sterilized before adoption. (A.C.A 20-19-103).	Municipalities may establish lower license fees for dogs that are sterilized. (See, e.g., Forrest City, Arkansas Code of Ordinances Sec. 5-17).
California	No statewide definition. May be defined by local ordinance, for example: "An 'unsterilized dog or cat' is a dog or cat that has not been rendered permanently incapable of reproduction." (Milpitas, California Code of Ordinances V-210-2.00).	Dogs and cats must be "spayed or neutered" before adoption. (Cal Food & Agr Code §§ 30503, 31751.3).	Municipalities are permitted to charge one-half or less of the normal license fee for cats that have been spayed or neutered (Cal Food & Agr Code § 31751.5) as well as for dogs that have been spayed or neutered (Cal Food & Agr Code § 30804.5).

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Colorado	"Sterilization" means the act of permanently rendering an animal incapable of reproduction. The term applies to surgical methods, including the procedures commonly referred to as spay and neuter, and nonsurgical methods and technologies approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration, the United States Department of Agriculture, or other appropriate designated federal authority. (C.R.S. 35-80-102).	Dogs and cats must be sterilized before adoption, or adopters must enter into a sterilization agreement (C.R.S. 35-80-106.4).	Municipalities may establish lower license fees for dogs that are sterilized. (<i>See, e.g.</i> , Carbondale, Colorado Code of Ordinances 8.08.030).
Connecticut	"Neuter" means the surgical procedure of castration on a male dog or cat; "Spay" means the surgical procedure of ovariectomy on a female dog or cat. (Conn. Gen. Stat. § 22-380e).	Dogs and cats must be "spayed or neutered" before adoption, or the adopter must pay for a sterilization voucher. (Conn. Gen. Stat. § 22-380f).	A \$6 surcharge is assessed for the issuance of licenses for an unspayed or unneutered dog. (Conn. Gen. Stat. § 22-380l).
Delaware	"Spay/neuter" -- To sterilize a female animal by removing the ovaries or to castrate a male animal by removing the testicles or by FDA approved pharmaceutical sterilization. (3 Del. C. § 8217).	Dogs and cats must be "spayed or neutered" before adoption. (3 Del. C. § 8220).	Municipalities may establish lower license fees for dogs that are spayed or neutered. (<i>See, e.g.</i> , Wilmington, Delaware Code of Ordinances Sec. 3-9).
District of Columbia	No applicable definition.	Animals must be "spayed or neutered" prior to adoption. (DC Code § 8-1807).	The license fee for spayed or neutered dogs is \$15, and \$50 for all other dogs. (DC Code § 8-1804).
Florida	No statewide definition. May be defined by local ordinance, for example: "Altered animal or sterilized animal means an animal that has been rendered permanently incapable of reproduction (i.e. spayed or neutered)." (Fort Meade, Florida Code of Ordinances Sec. 5-2).	Dogs and cats must be sterilized before adoption, or adopters must enter into a sterilization agreement. (FL ST § 823.15).	Municipalities may establish lower license fees for dogs and cats that are sterilized. (<i>See, e.g.</i> , Monticello, Florida Code of Ordinances Sec. 18-63).
Georgia	"Sterilization" means the surgical removal of the reproductive organs of a dog or cat in order to render the animal unable to reproduce. (O.C.G.A. § 4-14-2(5)).	Dogs and cats must be sterilized before adoption, or adopters must enter into a sterilization agreement. (O.C.G.A. § 4-14-3).	Municipalities may establish lower license fees for dogs and cats that are sterilized. (<i>See, e.g.</i> , Douglasville, Georgia Code of Ordinances § Sec. 18-54).
Hawaii	No statewide definition. May be defined in local ordinance, for example: "'Neutered'" means rendered permanently incapable of reproduction." (Maui County, Hawaii Code of Ordinances 6.04.010).	No statewide sterilization requirements for adoption. However, municipalities may require that dogs and cats be neutered prior to adoption. (<i>See, e.g.</i> , Maui County, Hawaii Code of Ordinances 6.04.070).	Municipalities may permit dogs to be licensed as neutered. (<i>See, e.g.</i> , Maui County, Hawaii Code of Ordinances 6.04.020).
Idaho	No statewide definition.	No sterilization requirements for adoption.	Municipalities may allow dogs to be licensed as spayed or neutered. (<i>See, e.g.</i> , Kuna, Idaho Code of Ordinances 10-3-7).
Illinois	"Intact animal" means an animal that has not been spayed or neutered. (510 ILCS 5/2.11c).	Dogs and cats must be "rendered incapable of reproduction" before adoption, or persons wishing to adopt "prior to the surgical procedures" must enter into a sterilization agreement. (510 ILCS 5/11).	Municipalities may establish lower license fees for dogs and cats that are sterilized. (<i>See, e.g.</i> , Boone County, Illinois Code of Ordinances Sec. 14-30).

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Indiana	No statewide definition. May be defined by local ordinance, for example: "'Altered animal' means any animal which has been spayed or neutered. (Bloomington, Indiana Code of Ordinances 7.01.010).	No statewide sterilization requirements for adoption. Municipalities may require that dogs and cats be spayed or neutered before adoption. (See, e.g., South Bend, Indiana Code of Ordinances Sec. 5-30).	Municipalities may establish lower license fees for animals that are spayed and neutered. (See, e.g., Merrillville, Indiana Code of Ordinances Sec. 5-43).
Iowa	Sterilization shall involve a procedure which permanently destroys the capacity of a dog or cat to reproduce, either by the surgical removal or alteration of its reproductive organs, or by the injection or ingestion of a serum. (ICA § 162.20).	Dogs and cats must be sterilized before adoption, or adopters must enter into a sterilization agreement. (Iowa Code § 162.20).	Municipalities may establish lower license fees for animals that are spayed and neutered. (See, e.g., Keokuk, Iowa Code of Ordinances 7.04.050).
Kansas	No statewide definition. May be defined by local ordinance, for example: "Unaltered means an animal which has not been surgically sterilized." (Wichita, Kansas Code of Ordinances Sec. 6.04.010).	Dogs and cats must be sterilized before adoption, or adopters must enter into a sterilization agreement. (K.S.A. § 47-1731).	Municipalities may establish lower license fees for animals that are spayed and neutered. (See, e.g., Junction City, Kansas Code of Ordinances SECTION 215.050).
Kentucky	No statewide definition.	No statewide sterilization requirements for adoption. Local ordinances may contain requirements, for example: "No unclaimed dog or cat or other animal shall be released for adoption unless the new owner agrees to subject the animal to the spay-neuter program sponsored by the Daviess County Fiscal Court and the payment of any and all applicable fees required thereof." (Owensboro, Kentucky Code of Ordinances § Sec. 4-17).	Municipalities may establish lower license fees for animals that are spayed and neutered. (See, e.g., Lexington-Fayette County, Kentucky Code of Ordinances Sec. 4-12.3).
Louisiana	"Sterilization" means the surgical removal of the reproductive organs of a dog or cat in order to render the animal unable to reproduce. (La. R.S. 3:2471).	Dogs and cats must be sterilized before adoption, or adopters must enter into a sterilization agreement. (LA R.S. § 3:2472).	Municipalities may establish lower license fees for animals that are spayed and neutered. (See, e.g., Terrebonne Parish, Louisiana Code of Ordinances Sec. 5-7).
Maine	"Spay/neuter" means to sterilize a female animal by removing the ovaries or to castrate a male animal by removing the testicles. (2010 ME Regulation Text 9553, 01-001-701, Section VIII).	Dogs and cats must be "spayed or neutered" before adoption, or adopters must enter into a sterilization agreement. (7 M.R.S § 3939-A).	License fees higher for dogs "capable of producing young." (7 M.R.S. § 3923-A).
Maryland	No statewide definition. May be defined by local ordinance, for example: "Neutering. Sterilization of an animal by castration (male) or spaying (female)." (Gaithersburg, Maryland Code of Ordinances Sec. 4-1) or "Alter means a surgical procedure or chemical treatment that renders an animal incapable of reproducing." (Howard County, Maryland Code of Ordinances Sec. 17.300)	No statewide sterilization requirements for adoption, but local ordinances may contain requirements, for example: "No statewide, local ordinances may contain requirements, for example: "Within a period to be specified by the Administrator, depending on the age, sex, health, and species of the animal, an adopted animal shall be spayed or neutered by a licensed veterinarian at the expense of the adopter." (Howard County, Maryland Code of Ordinances Sec. 17.311)	Except in certain counties, there is a licensese fee of \$1.00 for each male dog or each spayed female dog, and a fee of \$2.00 for each unspayed female dog. (Md. Ann. Code art. 24, § 11-501).
Massachusetts	No statewide definition.	Dogs and cats must be spayed or neutered prior to adoption, or the adopter may enter into a written agreement and pay a deposit. (M.G.L.A. 140 § 139A).	The fee for a license is determined by a city or town, and the license fee for a spayed or neutered dog shall be less than the license fee for an intact dog. (ALM GL ch. 140, § 139).
Michigan	Alteration' means a professional sterilization procedure performed by a veterinarian that renders a dog, cat, or ferret incapable of reproducing. (M.C.L.A. § 287.331).	Dogs, cats, and ferrets must be "altered" before adoption, or adopters must enter into an agreement that the animal will be altered. (M.C.L.A. § 287.338a).	The fee for a license is determined by a county, and the license fee for a spayed or neutered dog shall be less than the license fee for an intact dog. (MCLS § 287.266).

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Minnesota	No statewide definition. May be defined by local ordinance, for example: "Sterilized means neutered in the case of male dogs or cats, or spayed in the case of female dogs or cats." (Chanhassen, Minnesota Code of Ordinances Sec. 1-2).	No statewide requirement of sterilization before adoption. Requirements may be imposed by local ordinance. (See, e.g., Code of Ordinances City of Minneapolis, Minnesota § 64.140).	Municipalities may establish lower license fees for animals that are spayed and neutered. (See, e.g., Minneapolis, Minnesota Code of Ordinances § 64.30).
Mississippi	No statewide definition. May be defined by local ordinance: "Intact animal means an animal that has not been surgically sterilized." "Spaying and neutering mean the surgical sterilization of an animal by a licensed veterinarian." (Oxford, Mississippi Code of Ordinances Sec. 18-71).	No statewide requirement of sterilization before adoption. Requirements may be imposed by local ordinance. (See, e.g., Oxford, Mississippi Code of Ordinances Sec. 18-49).	Municipalities may establish lower license fees for animals that are spayed and neutered. (See, e.g., Oxford, Mississippi Code of Ordinances Sec. 18-74).
Missouri	"Sterilization", the surgical removal of the reproductive organs of a dog or cat in order to render the animal unable to reproduce, or the use of an approved serum which will permanently render the animal unable to reproduce. (V.A.M.S. 273.400).	Dogs and cats must be sterilized before adoption, or adopters must enter into a sterilization agreement. (V.A.M.S. 273.403-05).	Municipalities may establish lower license fees for animals that are spayed and neutered. (See, e.g., Cape Girardeau, Missouri Code of Ordinances Sec. 6-27).
Montana	No statewide definition. May be defined by local ordinance, for example: "Neutered/spayed means rendered permanently incapable of reproduction." (Billings, Montana Code of Ordinances Sec. 4-401).	Dogs and cats must be "spayed or neutered" before adoption, or adopters must enter into a sterilization agreement. (MCA 7-23-4202).	Municipalities may establish lower license fees for dogs that are spayed and neutered. (See, e.g., Miles City, Montana Code of Ordinances Sec. 4-28).
Nebraska	Unaltered means any male or female dog or cat which has not been neutered or spayed or otherwise rendered incapable of reproduction. (Neb.Rev.St 54-626).	Dogs and cats must be sterilized before adoption, or adopters must enter into a sterilization agreement. (Neb.Rev.St 54-638).	Municipalities might establish lower license fees for animals that are spayed and neutered. (See, e.g., Omaha, Nebraska Code of Ordinances Sec. 6-105).
Nevada	"Sterilization" means a procedure performed by a veterinarian on a pet that permanently destroys the capacity of the pet to reproduce. (Nev. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 574.625).	Dogs and cats must be sterilized before adoption, or adopters must enter into a sterilization agreement. (Nev. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 574.640).	Municipalities may establish lower license fees for animals that are spayed and neutered. (See, e.g., Las Vegas, Nevada Code of Ordinances 7.08.060).
New Hampshire	No statewide definition.	No statewide sterilization requirements for adoption.	There is a license fee of \$4.50 for any spayed or neutered dog, and a fee of \$7 for any unneutered or unspayed dog. (New Hampshire R.S.A. 466:4).
New Jersey	"Sterilize" means to render an animal incapable of reproducing by either spaying or neutering. (N.J. Stat. § 4:19-15.1).	Dogs and cats must be sterilized before adoption, or adopters must submit a deposit and certification that the animal has been sterilized within 180 days of adoption. (New Jersey Statutes § 4:19-15.30, 15.31). (Two year pilot program that applies to select counties.)	There is an additional \$3.00 licensing fee for any dog of reproductive age which has not had its reproductive capacity permanently altered through sterilization. (N.J. Stat. § 4:19-15.3b).
New Mexico	"Sterilization" means rendering an animal unable to reproduce, either by the spaying of a female animal or by the neutering of a male animal. (N.M. Stat. Ann. § 77-1-19).	Adopters must enter into a sterilization agreement and pay a sterilization deposit. (N.M. Stat. Ann. § 77-1-20).	Municipalities may establish lower license fees for animals that are spayed and neutered. (See, e.g., Las Cruces, New Mexico Code of Ordinances Sec. 7-82).

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New York	No statewide definition. May be defined by local ordinance, for example: "Sterilization" means rendering a dog or cat, who is at least eight weeks of age, unable to reproduce, by surgically altering the dog's or cat's reproductive organs or by non-surgical methods or technologies approved by the United States food and drug administration or the United States department of agriculture and acceptable to the department. Such definition shall include the spaying of a female dog or cat or the neutering of a male dog or cat." (NYC Administrative Code 17-802).	Dogs and cats must be "spayed or neutered" before adoption, or adopters must enter into a sterilization agreement. (NY CLS Agr & M § 377-a).	The license fee for dog licenses shall be determined by the municipality issuing the license, provided that the total fee for an unspayed or unneutered dog shall be at least five dollars more than the total fee for a spayed or neutered dog. There is an additional assessment of \$1.00 for altered dogs and at least \$3.00 for unaltered dogs for the purposes of carrying out animal population control efforts. (NY CLS Agr & M § 110).
North Carolina	No statewide definition. May be defined by local ordinance, for example: "Neuter means to render a male dog or cat unable to reproduce by removal of the testes." "Spay means to remove the ovaries and uterus of a female dog or cat in order to render the animal unable to reproduce." "Sterilization means to spay or neuter a dog or cat." (Craven County, North Carolina Code of Ordinances Sec. 6-54).	No statewide sterilization requirements for adoption. Local ordinances may contain requirements, for example: "All unsterilized dogs and cats five months of age or older adopted from the county animal shelter shall be either spayed or neutered within 30 days of their adoption. All animals adopted under five months of age shall be spayed or neutered at six months of age." (Holly Springs, North Carolina Code of Ordinances Sec. 12-144)	Municipalities may establish lower license fees for animals that are spayed and neutered. (See, e.g., Charlotte, North Carolina Code of Ordinances Sec. 3-101).
North Dakota	No statewide definition.	Dogs and cats must be sterilized before adoption, or adopters must enter into a sterilization agreement. (N.D. Cent. Code, § 40-05-19) (This provision is only applicable to cities that levy a tax for the purpose of operating animal shelters).	Municipalities may establish lower license fees for animals that are spayed and neutered. (See, e.g., Watford City, North Dakota Code of Ordinances 7-202).
Ohio	No statewide definition.	No sterilization requirements for adoption.	All dogs must be registered, and counties may establish a license fee that is higher for dogs that have not been spayed or neutered dogs. (ORC Ann. 955.01).
Oklahoma	"Neuter" means to render a male dog or cat unable to reproduce. "Spay" means to remove the ovaries of a female dog or cat in order to render said animal unable to reproduce. "Sterilization" means to spay or neuter a dog or cat. (OK ST T § 499.1).	Dogs and cats must be sterilized before adoption, or adopters must enter into a sterilization agreement. (4 Okl. St. § 499.2).	Municipalities might establish lower license fees for dogs that are spayed and neutered. (See, e.g., Ardmore, Oklahoma Code of Ordinances Sec. 5-25).
Oregon	No statewide definition. May be defined by local ordinance: "DOG. Both male and female dogs, sterilized or not." (Baker City, Oregon Code of Ordinances 90.15).	No sterilization requirements for adoption.	Licensing fees are lower for dogs that are spayed or neutered. (ORS § 609.100 (1)).
Pennsylvania	"NEUTER." A procedure to render a male dog or cat unable to reproduce. "SPAY." A procedure to render a female dog or cat unable to reproduce. "STERILIZE" or "STERILIZATION." The spaying or neutering of a dog or cat. (3 P.S. § 459-901-A).	Dogs and cats must be sterilized before adoption, or adopters must enter into a sterilization agreement. (3 P.S. § 459-902-A).	Dogs over 3-months-old must be licensed. The fee for neutered and spayed dogs is \$5; for non-spayed and unneutered dogs, \$7. (3 P.S. § 459-201).

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Rhode Island	"Neuter" means to surgically render a male dog or cat unable to reproduce. "Spay" means to surgically render a female dog or cat unable to reproduce. (R.I. Gen. Laws § 4-19-2).	Dogs and cats must be "spayed or neutered" before adoption, or adopters must enter into a sterilization agreement. (R.I. Gen. Laws § 4-19-16).	Towns are permitted by state law to charge reduced rates for licenses for spayed and neutered animals. Additionally, all cats must be spayed or neutered unless the owner holds a license to keep an unaltered cat. (R.I. Gen. Laws § 4-13-4).
South Carolina	"Sterilization" means the surgical removal of the reproductive organs of a dog or cat in order to render the animal unable to reproduce. (S.C. Code Ann. § 47-3-470).	Dogs and cats must be sterilized before adoption, or adopters must enter into a sterilization agreement. (S.C. Code Ann. § 47-3-480).	Municipalities might establish lower license fees for animals that are spayed and neutered. (See, e.g., Aiken, South Carolina Code of Ordinances Sec. 8-3).
South Dakota	No statewide definition. May be defined by local ordinance, for example: "'Spayed dog/cat' means any female dog/cat which has undergone surgery to prevent conception, whose owners can provide suitable proof of such surgery." (Huron, South Dakota Code of Ordinances 8.04.010).	No sterilization requirements for adoption.	Municipalities might establish different fees for sterilized and unsterilized animals. (See, e.g., Aberdeen, South Dakota Code of Ordinances Sec. 8-59).
Tennessee	No statewide definition. May be defined by local ordinance, for example: "Neutered or spayed means rendered permanently incapable of reproduction by surgical alteration or permanently incapable of reproduction because of physiological sterility, but only where the neutered or spayed condition has been certified by a veterinarian licensed in any state." (Shelby County, Tennessee Code of Ordinances Sec. 4-2).	Dogs and cats must be "spayed or neutered" before adoption, or adopters must enter into a sterilization agreement. (Tenn. Code Ann. § 44-17-502).	Municipalities might establish lower fees for spayed and neutered animals. (See, e.g., Shelby County, Tennessee Code of Ordinances Sec. 4-68).
Texas	"Sterilization" means the surgical removal of the reproductive organs of a dog or cat or the use of nonsurgical methods and technologies approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration or the United States Department of Agriculture to permanently render the animal unable to reproduce. (Tex. Health & Safety Code § 828.001).	Dogs and cats must be sterilized before adoption, or adopters must enter into a sterilization agreement. (Tex. Health & Safety Code § 828.002).	Municipalities might establish lower fees for spayed and neutered animals. (See, e.g., Live Oak, Texas Code of Ordinances Sec. 4-7).
Utah	"Sterilized" means that an animal has been surgically altered either by the spaying of a female animal or by the neutering of a male animal, so it is unable to reproduce. (Utah Code Ann. § 11-46-202(4)).	Dogs and cats must be sterilized before adoption, or adopters must enter into a sterilization agreement. (Utah Code Ann. § 11-46-203).	Municipalities may charge lower licensing fee for spayed and neutered animals. (See, e.g., City of Moab, UT Ordinance § 6.04.070).
Vermont	"Sterilization" means spaying or neutering, including examination, surgery, maintenance, anesthesia, peri-operative pain medication, discharge and removal of sutures. (CVR 20-010-011).	No sterilization requirements for adoption.	The licensing fee for neutered dogs and wolf-hybrids is \$4.00, whereas the fee for non-neutered dogs and wolf-hybrids is \$8.00. (20 V.S.A. § 3581).
Virginia	"Sterilize" or "sterilization" means a surgical or chemical procedure performed by a licensed veterinarian that renders a dog or cat permanently incapable of reproducing. (Va. Code Ann. § 3.2-6500).	Dogs and cats must be sterilized before adoption, or adopters must enter into a sterilization agreement. (Va. Code Ann. § 3.2-6574).	Municipalities are permitted to charge different rates for spayed and neutered animals. The tax for each dog or cat shall not be less than \$1 and not more than \$10 for each year. If the dog or cat has been spayed, the tax shall not exceed the tax provided for a male dog or cat. (Va. Code Ann. § 3.2-6528).

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Washington	No statewide definition. May be defined by local ordinance, for example: "'Sterilized' means the animal is surgically rendered incapable of reproduction by means of castration or an ovariectomy." (Ridgefield, WA Ordinances § 7.04.030).	No statewide sterilization requirement for adoption. Local ordinances may contain requirements. (<i>See, e.g.</i> , Spokane County, Washington Code of Ordinances 5.04.065).	Municipalities might establish lower fees for spayed and neutered animals. (See, e.g., Walla Walla County, Washington Code of Ordinances 6.04.070).
West Virginia	No statewide definition. May be defined by local ordinance, for example: "Spayed female: Any female animal which has been operated upon to prevent conception." (Beckley, West Virginia Code of Ordinances Sec. 3-1).	Dogs and cats must be "spayed or neutered" before adoption, or adopters must enter into a sterilization agreement. (W. Va. Code § 19-20B-2).	A \$1 tax is imposed on male dogs and spayed female dogs, and a \$2 tax on unspayed female dogs (W. Va. Code § 7-7-6d).
Wisconsin	No statewide definition. May be defined by local ordinance, for example: "Render sterile means a surgical procedure that has been performed on an animal that renders it incapable of siring or bearing offspring; including neutering and spaying." (Columbus, Wisconsin Code of Ordinances Sec. 14-4).	No sterilization requirements for adoption.	The minimum dog license tax is \$3.00 for a neutered male dog or spayed female dog, and \$8.00 for an unneutered male dog or unspayed female dog. (Wis. Stat. § 174.05).
Wyoming	No statewide definition. May be defined by local ordinance, for example :"'Altered'" means spayed or neutered." (Casper, Wyoming Code of Ordinances 6.04.010).	No statewide sterilization requirement for adoption. Local ordinances may contain requirements. (<i>See, e.g.</i> , Cheyenne, Wyoming Code of Ordinances 6.20.050).	Municipalities might establish lower fees for spayed and neutered animals. (See, e.g., Newcastle, Wyoming Code of Ordinances Sec. 4-18).

STATE STERILIZATION DEFINITIONS

DEFINITION CONFINED TO SURGICAL STERILIZATION

- | | |
|---|----------------|
| 1 | Alabama |
| 2 | Connecticut |
| 3 | Georgia |
| 4 | Louisiana |
| 5 | Maine |
| 6 | Rhode Island |
| 7 | South Carolina |
| 8 | Utah |
| 9 | Vermont |

STERILIZATION IS DEFINED AS SPAYING OR NEUTERING

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|---|--------------|
| 1 | Illinois |
| 2 | Oklahoma |
| 3 | New Jersey |
| 4 | New Mexico |
| 5 | Pennsylvania |

DEFINITION MAY ALLOW FOR NON-SURGICAL STERILIZATION

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| 1 | Michigan |
| 2 | Nebraska |
| 3 | Nevada |

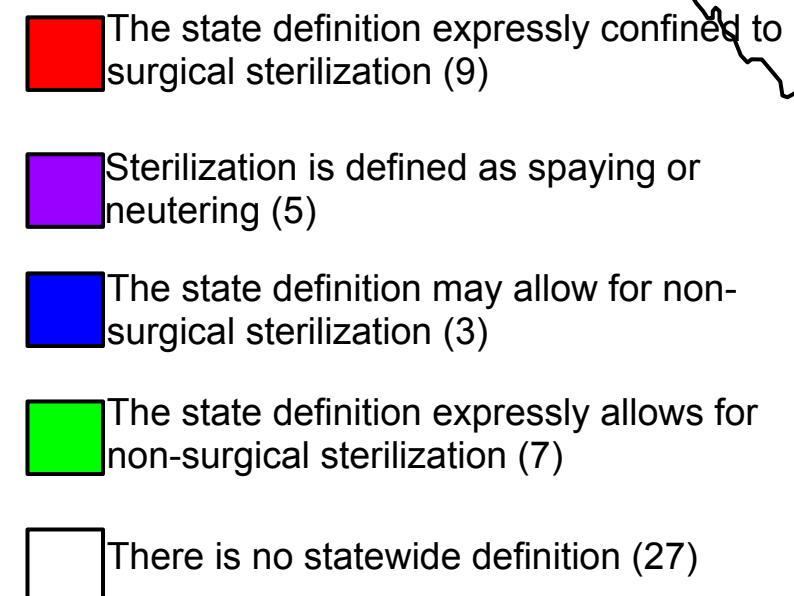
DEFINITION EXPLICITLY ALLOWS FOR ALTERNATIVES TO SURGERY

- | | |
|---|----------|
| 1 | Arizona |
| 2 | Colorado |
| 3 | Delaware |
| 4 | Iowa |
| 5 | Missouri |

6 Texas

NO STATEWIDE DEFINITION OF STERILIZATION

- | | | |
|------------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| 7 Virginia | 10 Kentucky | 19 North Dakota |
| 1 Alaska | 11 Maryland | 20 Ohio |
| 2 Arkansas | 12 Massachusetts | 21 Oregon |
| 3 California | 13 Minnesota | 22 South Dakota |
| 4 District of Columbia | 14 Mississippi | 23 Tennessee |
| 5 Florida | 15 Montana | 24 Washington |
| 6 Hawaii | 16 New Hampshire | 25 West Virginia |
| 7 Idaho | 17 New York | 26 Wisconsin |
| 8 Indiana | 18 North Carolina | 27 Wyoming |
| 9 Kansas | | |



STATE STERILIZATION REQUIREMENTS FOR ADOPTION

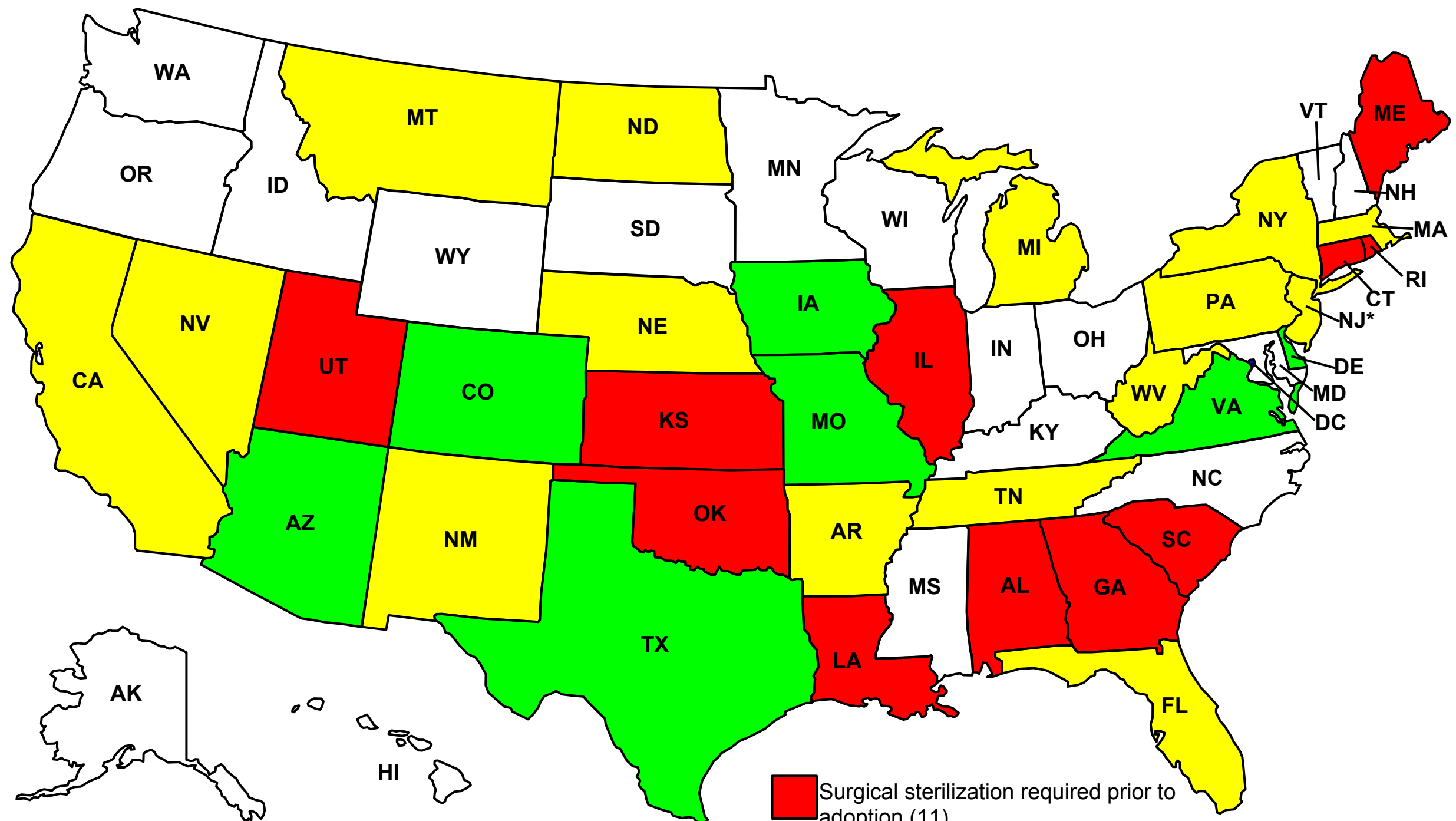
SURGICAL STERILIZATION IS REQUIRED			
1	Alabama	7	Maine
2	Connecticut	8	Oklahoma
3	Georgia	9	Rhode Island
4	Illinois	10	South Carolina
5	Kansas	11	Utah
6	Louisiana		

STERILIZATION REQUIRED – NOT DEFINED and/or MAY ALLOW FOR NON-SURGICAL METHODS			
1	Arkansas	9	North Dakota
2	California	10	New Jersey
3	District of Columbia	11	New Mexico
4	Florida	12	New York
5	Massachusetts	13	Pennsylvania
5	Michigan	14	Tennessee
6	Montana	15	West Virginia
7	Nebraska		
8	Nevada		

STERILIZATION REQUIRED – DEFINITION EXPLICITLY ALLOWS FOR ALTERNATIVES TO SURGERY	
1	Arizona
2	Colorado
3	Delaware
4	Iowa
5	Missouri
6	Texas
7	Virginia

NO STERILIZATION REQUIREMENT FOR ADOPTION			
1	Alaska	11	North Carolina
2	Hawaii	12	Ohio
3	Idaho	13	Oregon
4	Indiana	14	South Dakota
5	Kentucky	15	Vermont
6	Maryland	16	Washington
8	Minnesota	17	Wisconsin
9	Mississippi	18	Wyoming
10	New Hampshire		

State Sterilization Requirements for Adoption



* New Jersey is currently operating a pilot program in select counties requiring animals to be sterilized before adoption.

- Surgical sterilization required prior to adoption (11)
- Sterilization required prior to adoption--sterilization not defined and/or may allow for non-surgical methods (16)
- Sterilization required prior to adoption-- law expressly allows for non-surgical sterilization (7)
- No statewide sterilization requirement prior to adoption (17)