

hereby repealed and the following sections enacted in lieu thereof:

2. The county commissioners of the several counties of this State shall require an accurate return to be made annually by the collectors of the several counties of all dogs upwards of four months old, owned or possessed by any person within their respective counties, particularly noting the number owned or possessed by each person and kept about the house.

3. The said commissioners shall levy and cause to be collected the sum of fifty cents on the first and second dog each, and one dollar on every additional dog, and on every bitch two dollars, that may be owned, possessed or kept by each person named in such return as the owner thereof.

4. The collectors of the several counties shall collect these sums at the same time and in the same manner as county and State taxes are collected, and shall keep a separate account of the money arising therefrom, and shall be entitled to five per centum on the amount collected by them respectively, and six cents a head for each dog returned in the aforesaid return to the county commissioners.

5. The money arising from the said levy, shall be paid to the Treasurer of the several counties, or to the County Commissioners where there is no Treasurer, and shall constitute a fund for remunerating the inhabitants of the several counties for losses sustained by sheep being destroyed or injured by dogs.

6. When any of the inhabitants of the several counties shall have any sheep destroyed or injured by dogs, he may apply to the nearest Justice of the Peace, who shall appoint three disinterested persons to view and ascertain the damages by him sustained; and they, or any of them, shall certify the same under their hands and seals to the County Commissioners, and the commissioners shall cause the amount so certified, to be paid out of the funds arising from the tax on dogs.

7. If there shall not be sufficient money in the Treasury belonging to the said fund, the said amount so certified to, shall be paid out of the first money that shall come into the Treasury belonging thereto.

8. The Treasurer or County Commissioners of the several counties, at the expiration of each year, shall retain in hand the sum of five hundred dollars, to be applied for losses sustained by sheep being destroyed or injured by dogs; all balances shall be applied for county purposes.

9. Any dog kept or straying about a house, shall be deemed sufficient evidence of ownership, to authorize the collector to return the person inhabiting said house as the