It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

SECTION 1. Chapter 42-17.1 of the General Laws entitled "Department of Environmental Management" is hereby amended by adding thereto the following section:

42-17.1-45. No prohibition on pets. — (a) Notwithstanding any provision of this chapter to the contrary, the department shall not promulgate or enforce any rule or regulation that would prohibit a pet dog or cat from accompanying its owner or caretaker at any state owned campground.

(b) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (a) of this section, nothing in this section shall be deemed to allow pets within any state beach facility that includes a bathing beach licensed by the department of health pursuant to chapter 23-21, unless the bathing beach portion of the facility is sufficiently isolated from other public areas within the facility.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.
EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF
AN ACT
RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

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1 This act would prohibit the department of environmental management from promulgating
2 or enforcing any rule or regulation that would prohibit pets at state owned campgrounds.
3 This act would take effect upon passage.

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