

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 73

Session of
1987

INTRODUCED BY GODSHALL, MORRIS, LLOYD, JOHNSON, VROON, TIGUE,
COHEN, BIRMELIN, CLYMER, SCHEETZ, HALUSKA, STAIRS, STABACK,
LaGROTTA, HASAY, DISTLER, SCHULER, BUNT, GRUPPO, FOX,
PETRARCA, LEH, NOYE, FLICK, CARLSON, MRKONIC, BOWSER, FARGO,
BOOK, BLACK, D. W. SNYDER, CAPPABIANCA, S. H. SMITH, HECKLER,
MERRY, VAN HORNE, HESS, LANGTRY, ROBBINS AND JACKSON,
JANUARY 28, 1987

AS AMENDED ON SECOND CONSIDERATION, IN SENATE, MARCH 17, 1987

AN ACT

1 Amending the act of December 15, 1986 (P.L.1610, No.181),
2 entitled "An act providing for the establishment and
3 operation of a Statewide system for the prevention and
4 control of rabies; imposing additional powers and duties on
5 the Departments of Agriculture and Health; providing for
6 emergency declarations; fixing penalties for violations; and
7 making an appropriation," ~~further providing for the effective~~ <—
8 ~~date of the Rabies Prevention and Control in Domestic Animals~~
9 ~~and Wildlife Act.~~ PROVIDING FOR VACCINATION OF ANIMALS IN <—
10 ANIMAL SHELTERS; AND FURTHER PROVIDING FOR THE EFFECTIVE DATE
11 OF THE ACT.

12 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
13 hereby enacts as follows:

14 ~~Section 1. Section 15 of the act of December 15, 1986~~ <—
15 ~~(P.L.1610, No.181), known as the Rabies Prevention and Control~~
16 ~~in Domestic Animals and Wildlife Act, is amended to read:~~

17 SECTION 1. SECTIONS 8 AND 15 OF THE ACT OF DECEMBER 15, 1986 <—
18 (P.L.1610, NO.181), KNOWN AS THE RABIES PREVENTION AND CONTROL
19 IN DOMESTIC ANIMALS AND WILDLIFE ACT, ARE AMENDED TO READ:

SECTION 8. VACCINATION REQUIRED; CERTIFICATE AND TAG.

(A) REQUIREMENT.--EVERY PERSON LIVING IN THIS COMMONWEALTH, OWNING OR KEEPING A DOG OR CAT OVER THREE MONTHS OF AGE, SHALL CAUSE THAT DOG OR CAT TO BE VACCINATED AGAINST RABIES. RABIES VACCINE SHALL BE ADMINISTERED BY A LICENSED VETERINARIAN OR UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF A LICENSED VETERINARIAN. THE COMMONWEALTH SHALL RECOGNIZE THE THREE-YEAR RABIES VACCINE AS THE VACCINE TO BE USED. THOSE ANIMALS VACCINATED AFTER ONE YEAR OF AGE SHALL GET BOOSTER VACCINATIONS EVERY THREE YEARS THEREAFTER. THOSE ANIMALS VACCINATED PRIOR TO ONE YEAR OF AGE WILL BE CONSIDERED PROTECTED FOR ONLY ONE YEAR AND SHALL RECEIVE A BOOSTER VACCINATION ONE YEAR LATER ON THE ANNIVERSARY DATE OF THE ORIGINAL VACCINATION AND SHALL BE VACCINATED EVERY THREE YEARS THEREAFTER.

(B) OTHER PERSONS.--

(1) STATE-LICENSED KENNEL OWNERS AND FULL-TIME EMPLOYEES OF THE SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS (SPCA) WHO HAVE BEEN EXAMINED AND CERTIFIED BY THE DEPARTMENT UNDER THIS SUBSECTION MAY ADMINISTER RABIES VACCINE TO ANIMALS [OWNED BY THEM] WHICH ARE EITHER OWNED BY THE KENNEL OWNERS OR WHICH ARE PRESENT AT ANIMAL SHELTERS OPERATED BY THE SPCA.

(2) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL DEVELOP, IMPLEMENT AND ADMINISTER A COMPREHENSIVE RABIES VACCINATION INSTRUCTION PROGRAM ENCOMPASSING A WRITTEN EXAMINATION, WHICH, IF SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED, WILL LEAD TO DEPARTMENTAL CERTIFICATION. THE DEPARTMENT MAY ASSESS A FEE FOR THE PROGRAM AND EXAMINATION WHICH SHALL NOT EXCEED \$10. ALL FEES RECEIVED AND ALL COSTS INCURRED SHALL BE DEPOSITED IN OR EXPENDED FROM THE DOG FUND. THE DEPARTMENT SHALL PROMULGATE

1 ALL RULES AND REGULATIONS NECESSARY TO IMPLEMENT THIS
2 SUBSECTION.

3 (3) STATE-LICENSED KENNEL OWNERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE
4 SPCA WHO OBTAIN THE REQUIRED CERTIFICATION SHALL:

5 (I) PURCHASE RABIES VACCINE ONLY FROM A LICENSED
6 VETERINARIAN OR THE DEPARTMENT.

7 (II) ADMINISTER THE VACCINE IN AN APPROVED MANNER.

8 (III) MAINTAIN DETAILED RECORDS FOR AT LEAST THREE
9 YEARS WHICH INDICATE:

10 (A) THE NAME, TYPE, LOT NUMBER, DATE OF PURCHASE
11 AND DATE OF ADMINISTRATION OF THE RABIES VACCINE.

12 (B) A DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE ANIMAL
13 VACCINATED.

14 (C) THE NAME, ADDRESS AND TELEPHONE NUMBER OF
15 THE PERSON WHO ADMINISTERED THE VACCINE.

16 (C) CERTIFICATE AND TAG OF VACCINATION.--EVERY LICENSED
17 VETERINARIAN WHO VACCINATES A DOG OR CAT AGAINST RABIES SHALL
18 ISSUE A VACCINATION CERTIFICATE AND TAG PROVIDED BY THE
19 MANUFACTURER TO THE OWNER. INFORMATION CONTAINED IN RABIES
20 VACCINATION RECORDS SHALL NOT BE USED FOR THE PURPOSE OF
21 LICENSING ANIMALS OR FOR TAXATION OF INDIVIDUALS FOR OWNING
22 ANIMALS. FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION, EACH LICENSED
23 VETERINARIAN MAY SELECT A VACCINE OF HIS CHOICE AND USE THE
24 PROCEDURES FOR ADMINISTERING IT AS ARE CONSISTENT WITH THE
25 RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE FEDERAL AGENCY WHICH LICENSES THE
26 VACCINE.

27 (D) ENFORCEMENT.--IT SHALL BE THE DUTY OF EVERY POLICE
28 OFFICER OR STATE DOG WARDEN OR THE DESIGNATED MUNICIPAL ANIMAL
29 CONTROL OFFICER TO ISSUE A CITATION TO EVERY PERSON WHO OWNS A
30 DOG OR CAT WHICH IS NOT VACCINATED PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (A) OR

1 (B).

2 (E) ANIMALS RECEIVED BY SHELTERS.--NOTWITHSTANDING ANY
3 PROVISION OF THIS ACT, AN SPCA ORGANIZATION OPERATING AN ANIMAL
4 SHELTER IS NOT REQUIRED TO VACCINATE AN ANIMAL RECEIVED BY THE
5 SHELTER UNTIL THAT ANIMAL IS ADOPTED AS A PET AND LEAVES THE
6 SHELTER.

7 (F) CERTAIN ANIMALS ADOPTED AS PETS.--NOTWITHSTANDING ANY
8 PROVISION OF THIS ACT, ANY VACCINATED ANIMAL UNDER ONE YEAR OF
9 AGE ADOPTED AS A PET FROM AN ANIMAL SHELTER OPERATED BY THE SPCA
10 SHALL BE DEEMED TO BE PROTECTED FOR ONE YEAR, AS PROVIDED IN
11 SUBSECTION (A). ANY VACCINATED ANIMAL ONE YEAR OF AGE OR OLDER
12 ADOPTED AS A PET SHALL BE DEEMED TO BE PROTECTED FOR THREE
13 YEARS, AS PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION (A).

14 Section 15. Effective date.

15 [This] Except for sections 11 and 12 which shall take effect
16 ~~September~~ JUNE 1, 1987, the remainder of this act shall take <—
17 effect in 60 days.

18 Section 2. This act shall be retroactive to December 15,
19 1986.

20 Section 3. This act shall take effect immediately.