

1 AN ACT relating to rabies vaccinations.

2 ***Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:***

3 ➔Section 1. KRS 258.005 is amended to read as follows:

4 As used in KRS 258.005 to 258.087, unless the context requires otherwise:

- 5 (1) "Dog" means any canine three (3) months of age or older for which there exists a
6 United States Department of Agriculture approved rabies vaccine;
- 7 (2) "Owner" means any person owning, keeping, or harboring a dog, cat, or ferret in
8 Kentucky;
- 9 (3) "Veterinarian" has the same meaning as in KRS 321.181~~means a licensed~~
10 ~~practitioner of veterinary medicine~~;
- 11 (4) "Qualified person" means a person granted a permit by the secretary for health and
12 family services to vaccinate his or her own dog against rabies;
- 13 (5) "Vaccination" means the administration by a veterinarian, veterinary technician, or
14 other qualified person of rabies vaccine approved by and administered in
15 accordance with administrative regulations promulgated by the secretary for health
16 and family services;
- 17 (6) "Cat" means any feline three (3) months of age or older for which there exists a
18 United States Department of Agriculture approved rabies vaccine;
- 19 (7) "Animal control officer" means an individual who is employed or appointed by, or
20 has contracted with:
- 21 (a) A city, county, urban-county, charter county, or consolidated local
22 government to enforce the provisions of this chapter, the provisions of the
23 Kentucky Revised Statutes relating to cruelty, mistreatment, sexual crimes
24 against, or torture of animals, and local animal control ordinances; or
- 25 (b) An entity that has contracted with a city, county, urban-county, charter
26 county, or consolidated local government to enforce the provisions of this
27 chapter, the provisions of the Kentucky Revised Statutes relating to cruelty,

1 mistreatment, sexual crimes against, or torture of animals, and local animal
2 control ordinances;

3 (8) "Ferret" means any musteline three (3) months of age or older for which there exists
4 a United States Department of Agriculture approved rabies vaccine; ~~and~~

5 (9) "Quarantine" means the confinement of an animal for observation of clinical signs
6 of illness indicating rabies infection, and the prevention of escape or contact with
7 any person or other animal; and

8 **(10) "Veterinary technician" has the same meaning as in KRS 321.181.**

9 ➔Section 2. KRS 258.015 is amended to read as follows:

10 (1) Every owner shall have his or her dog, cat, or ferret initially vaccinated against
11 rabies by the age of four (4) months and revaccinated at the expiration of the
12 immunization period as certified by a Kentucky-licensed~~the~~ veterinarian. The
13 veterinarian, or a Kentucky-licensed veterinary technician in accordance to KRS
14 321.190, who vaccinates a dog, cat, or ferret shall issue to the owner a vaccination
15 certificate signed by the veterinarian on a form approved by the Cabinet for Health
16 and Family Services. The vaccination certificate shall be prepared and issued in
17 duplicate, one (1) copy to be retained by the issuing veterinarian and one (1) copy
18 to be given to the owner of the dog, cat, or ferret vaccinated. Each certificate shall
19 bear the name and address of the veterinarian who issued it. The veterinarian shall
20 also furnish each dog owner with a rabies tag bearing a serial number
21 corresponding to the vaccination certificate with the year of immunization. The tag
22 shall be affixed to a collar or harness furnished by the owner and shall be worn by
23 the dog for which the tag was issued. No one except the owner or his or her duly
24 authorized agent shall remove the tag.

25 (2) Every qualified person who vaccinates his or her own dog shall comply with the
26 vaccination certificate and tag requirement provisions of subsection (1) of this
27 section and the administrative regulations promulgated under KRS 258.075.

- 1 (3) Every owner of a cat or ferret shall show proof of a valid rabies vaccination upon
- 2 request of an animal control officer or peace officer.