Florida Senate - 1998

By Senator Forman

32-1621-98 See HB 3115 A bill to be entitled 1 2 An act relating to animals; creating s. 828.35, F.S.; providing requirements for the rabies 3 4 vaccination of ferrets; providing exemptions; 5 providing for rabies vaccination certificates; 6 providing for guarantine according to rules; 7 providing a penalty; providing an effective 8 date. 9 10 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida: 11 12 Section 1. Section 828.35, Florida Statutes, is created to read: 13 828.35 Rabies vaccination of ferrets.--14 (1) All ferrets 4 months of age or older must be 15 vaccinated against rabies by a licensed veterinarian with a 16 17 United States Government-approved vaccine. The cost of vaccination must be borne by the animal's owner. 18 19 (2) A ferret is exempt from vaccination against rabies 20 if a licensed veterinarian has examined the animal and has 21 certified in writing that at the time vaccination would 22 endanger the animal's health because of its age, infirmity, disability, illness, or other medical considerations. An 23 exempt animal must be vaccinated against rabies as soon as its 24 25 health permits. (3) Upon vaccination against rabies, the licensed 26 27 veterinarian shall provide the animal's owner and the animal 28 control authority with a rabies vaccination certificate which 29 must contain at least the following information: 30 (a) The license number of the administering 31 veterinarian.

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1 (b) The name, address, and phone number of the 2 veterinarian and owner. 3 The date of vaccination. (C) 4 (d) The expiration date of the vaccination. 5 The species, age, sex, color, weight, and name of (e) 6 the animal vaccinated. 7 The rabies vaccine manufacturer. (f) The vaccine lot number and expiration date. 8 (q) 9 (h) The type and brand of vaccine used. 10 (i) The route of administration of the vaccine. 11 (j) The signature or signature stamp of the licensed 12 veterinarian. Beginning March 1 following the effective date of 13 (4) this act, each ferret vaccinated according to this section 14 15 shall be quarantined, when necessary, according to rules of the Department of Health. 16 17 (5) Violation of this section is a civil infraction, punishable as provided in s. 828.27(2). 18 19 (6) This section does not prohibit or limit 20 municipalities or counties from enacting requirements similar to or more stringent than the provisions of this section for 21 the implementation and enforcement of rabies-control 22 23 ordinances. 24 Section 2. This act shall take effect January 1 of the 25 year following the year in which enacted. 26 27 28 HOUSE SUMMARY 29 Provides requirements for the rabies vaccination of ferrets 4 months of age or older. Provides exemptions under certain circumstances. Requires rabies vaccination certificates and rules for quarantine. Provides penalties 30 31 for violations.

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