

1                                   A bill to be entitled  
 2           An act relating to rabies vaccinations; amending s.  
 3           828.30, F.S.; authorizing certain persons to  
 4           administer rabies vaccinations to certain animals  
 5           under indirect supervision of a veterinarian; defining  
 6           the term "indirect supervision"; conforming  
 7           provisions; amending ss. 474.203, 767.16, and 828.29,  
 8           F.S.; conforming provisions to changes made by the  
 9           act; providing an effective date.

10  
 11   Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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 13           Section 1. Subsections (1) and (3) of section 828.30,  
 14   Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

15           828.30 Rabies vaccination of dogs, cats, and ferrets.—

16           (1) (a) All dogs, cats, and ferrets 4 months of age or  
 17   older must be vaccinated by a licensed veterinarian or a person  
 18   authorized under paragraph (b) against rabies with a vaccine  
 19   that is licensed by the United States Department of Agriculture  
 20   for use in those species.

21           (b) Acting under the indirect supervision of a  
 22   veterinarian, an employee, an agent, or a contractor of a county  
 23   or municipal animal control authority or sheriff may vaccinate  
 24   against rabies dogs, cats, and ferrets in the custody of an  
 25   animal control authority or a sheriff that will be transferred,

26 rescued, fostered, adopted, or reclaimed by the owner. The  
27 supervising veterinarian assumes responsibility for any person  
28 vaccinating animals at his or her direction or under his or her  
29 direct or indirect supervision. As used in this paragraph, the  
30 term "indirect supervision" means that the supervising  
31 veterinarian is required to be available for consultation  
32 through telecommunications but is not required to be physically  
33 present during such consultation.

34 (c) The owner of every dog, cat, and ferret shall have the  
35 animal revaccinated 12 months after the initial vaccination.  
36 Thereafter, the interval between vaccinations shall conform to  
37 the vaccine manufacturer's directions. The cost of vaccination  
38 must be borne by the animal's owner. Evidence of circulating  
39 rabies virus neutralizing antibodies may ~~shall~~ not be used as a  
40 substitute for current vaccination in managing rabies exposure  
41 or determining the need for booster vaccinations.

42 (3) Upon vaccination against rabies, the licensed  
43 veterinarian shall provide the animal's owner and the animal  
44 control authority with a rabies vaccination certificate. Each  
45 animal control authority and veterinarian shall use the "Rabies  
46 Vaccination Certificate" of the National Association of State  
47 Public Health Veterinarians (NASPHV) or an equivalent form  
48 approved by the local government that contains all the  
49 information required by the NASPHV Rabies Vaccination  
50 Certificate. The veterinarian who administers the rabies

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51 vaccination or who supervises the administration of the rabies  
52 vaccination as provided in paragraph (1) (b) vaccine to an animal  
53 as authorized ~~required~~ under this section may affix his or her  
54 signature stamp in lieu of an actual signature.

55 Section 2. Paragraph (a) of subsection (5) of section  
56 474.203, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

57 474.203 Exemptions.—This chapter does not apply to:

58 (5) (a) Any person, or the person's regular employee,  
59 administering to the ills or injuries of her or his own animals,  
60 including, but not limited to, castration, spaying, and  
61 dehorning of herd animals, unless title is transferred or  
62 employment provided for the purpose of circumventing this law.  
63 This exemption does not apply to any person licensed as a  
64 veterinarian in another state or foreign jurisdiction and  
65 practicing temporarily in this state. However, except as  
66 provided in s. 828.30, only a veterinarian may immunize or treat  
67 an animal for diseases that are communicable to humans and that  
68 are of public health significance.

69  
70 For the purposes of chapters 465 and 893, persons exempt  
71 pursuant to subsection (1), subsection (2), or subsection (4)  
72 are deemed to be duly licensed practitioners authorized by the  
73 laws of this state to prescribe drugs or medicinal supplies.

74 Section 3. Subsection (2) of section 767.16, Florida  
75 Statutes, is amended to read:

76 767.16 Police canine or service dog; exemption.—

77 (2) Any dog used as a service dog for blind, hearing  
 78 impaired, or disabled persons that bites another animal or a  
 79 human is exempt from any quarantine requirement following such  
 80 bite if the dog has a current rabies vaccination that was  
 81 administered as provided in s. 828.30 ~~by a licensed~~  
 82 ~~veterinarian.~~

83 Section 4. Paragraph (b) of subsection (1) and paragraph  
 84 (b) of subsection (2) of section 828.29, Florida Statutes, are  
 85 amended to read:

86 828.29 Dogs and cats transported or offered for sale;  
 87 health requirements; consumer guarantee.—

88 (1)

89 (b) For each dog offered for sale within the state, the  
 90 tests, vaccines, and anthelmintics required by this section must  
 91 be administered by or under the direction of a veterinarian,  
 92 licensed by the state and accredited by the United States  
 93 Department of Agriculture, who issues the official certificate  
 94 of veterinary inspection. The tests, vaccines, and anthelmintics  
 95 must be administered before the dog is offered for sale in the  
 96 state, unless the licensed, accredited veterinarian certifies on  
 97 the official certificate of veterinary inspection that to  
 98 inoculate or deworm the dog is not in the best medical interest  
 99 of the dog, in which case the vaccine or anthelmintic may not be  
 100 administered to that particular dog. Each dog must receive

- 101 vaccines and anthelmintics against the following diseases and  
 102 internal parasites:
- 103 1. Canine distemper.
  - 104 2. Leptospirosis.
  - 105 3. Bordetella (by intranasal inoculation or by an  
 106 alternative method of administration if deemed necessary by the  
 107 attending veterinarian and noted on the health certificate,  
 108 which must be administered in this state once before sale).
  - 109 4. Parainfluenza.
  - 110 5. Hepatitis.
  - 111 6. Canine parvo.
  - 112 7. Rabies, provided the dog is over 3 months of age and  
 113 the inoculation is administered by as provided in s. 828.30 a  
 114 ~~licensed veterinarian~~.
  - 115 8. Roundworms.
  - 116 9. Hookworms.

117  
 118 If the dog is under 4 months of age, the tests, vaccines, and  
 119 anthelmintics required by this section must be administered no  
 120 more than 21 days before sale within the state. If the dog is 4  
 121 months of age or older, the tests, vaccines, and anthelmintics  
 122 required by this section must be administered at or after 3  
 123 months of age, but no more than 1 year before sale within the  
 124 state.

125 (2)

126 (b) For each cat offered for sale within the state, the  
127 tests, vaccines, and anthelmintics required by this section must  
128 be administered by or under the direction of a veterinarian,  
129 licensed by the state and accredited by the United States  
130 Department of Agriculture, who issues the official certificate  
131 of veterinary inspection. The tests, vaccines, and anthelmintics  
132 must be administered before the cat is offered for sale in the  
133 state, unless the licensed, accredited veterinarian certifies on  
134 the official certificate of veterinary inspection that to  
135 inoculate or deworm the cat is not in the best medical interest  
136 of the cat, in which case the vaccine or anthelmintic may not be  
137 administered to that particular cat. Each cat must receive  
138 vaccines and anthelmintics against the following diseases and  
139 internal parasites:

- 140 1. Panleukopenia.
- 141 2. Feline viral rhinotracheitis.
- 142 3. Calici virus.
- 143 4. Rabies, if the cat is over 3 months of age and the  
144 inoculation is administered as provided in s. 828.30 ~~by a~~  
145 ~~licensed veterinarian~~.
- 146 5. Hookworms.
- 147 6. Roundworms.

148  
149 If the cat is under 4 months of age, the tests, vaccines, and  
150 anthelmintics required by this section must be administered no

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151 | more than 21 days before sale within the state. If the cat is 4  
152 | months of age or older, the tests, vaccines, and anthelmintics  
153 | required by this section must be administered at or after 3  
154 | months of age, but no more than 1 year before sale within the  
155 | state.

156 |       Section 5. This act shall take effect July 1, 2024.