

1 VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY — CHAPTER

2 *An Act to amend and reenact § 3.1-735 of the Code of Virginia, relating to certificates of veterinary*
3 *inspection for ornamental aquarium fish or invertebrate animals.*

4 [S 1043]

5 Approved

6 **Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**7 **1. That § 3.1-735 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:**8 § 3.1-735. Certificate of veterinary inspection required for importation of certain pet animals or
9 poultry; examination, etc., where imported without certificate; exceptions.

10 No person shall import into this Commonwealth any pet animal, including but not limited to, dogs,
11 cats, monkeys, or other animals, ferae naturae, wild or tame under domestication or in custody, or any
12 poultry not intended for commercial use which by its nature is fit for use only as a pet until such animal
13 or poultry is accompanied by a certificate of veterinary inspection made by a properly qualified
14 veterinarian. Such certificate shall be under oath on an official interstate health certificate issued by the
15 state of origin, shall be dated no more than ten days before shipment, and shall contain such evidence of
16 proof of the health of the animal or poultry as the Board, by regulation, may require.

17 Any such animal or poultry, which may be imported into this Commonwealth without such
18 certificate, may be examined immediately by the State Veterinarian or by a licensed veterinarian,
19 designated by him, and the examination cost may be charged to the owner or the person in possession
20 of such animal or poultry. If, in the opinion of the veterinarian, there is danger from contagion or
21 infection, such animal or poultry may be placed in close quarantine at the expense of the owner until all
22 danger of infection or contagion has passed, whereupon the animal or poultry shall be released upon the
23 order of such veterinarian.

24 The provisions of this section shall not apply to *any ornamental aquarium fish or invertebrate*
25 *animal. The provisions of this section shall also not apply to* any animal or poultry as herein defined
26 passing directly through the Commonwealth to another state in interstate commerce, or when such
27 animal or poultry is kept properly under control by the owner or custodian of such animal or poultry
28 when passing through this Commonwealth to another state; to any such animal or poultry brought into
29 this Commonwealth by a resident of this Commonwealth or by a resident of another state who intends
30 to make his residence in this Commonwealth except if brought into the Commonwealth with the intent
31 of offering it for public sale, trade, or promotional incentive; or to any animal brought into this
32 Commonwealth temporarily for the purpose of hunting or legal exhibition within this state.

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