

VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY -- 1995 SESSION

CHAPTER 625

An Act to amend and reenact § 3.1-796.70 of the Code of Virginia, relating to the sale of unweaned or certain immature animals; penalty.

[H 1958]

Approved March 25, 1995

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That § 3.1-796.70 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:

§ 3.1-796.70. Sale, etc., of unweaned or certain immature animals prohibited, vaccinations required for dogs and cats; penalty.

A. No person shall sell, raffle, or offer for sale as pets or novelties, or offer or give as a prize, premium, or advertising device any living chicks, ducklings, or other fowl under two months old in quantities of less than six or any unweaned mammalian companion animal *or any dog under the age of seven weeks without its dam, or any cat under the age of seven weeks without its queen.* Dealers may offer immature fowl, ~~or~~ unweaned mammalian companion animals, *dogs or cats under the age of seven weeks* for sale as pets or novelties with the requirement that prospective owners take possession of the animals only after fowl ~~reach~~ *have reached* two months of age ~~and~~, mammalian companion animals have been weaned, *and dogs and cats are at least seven weeks of age.* Nothing in this section shall prohibit the sale of an unweaned animal (i) as food for other animals or (ii) with the lactating dam *or queen* or a lactating surrogate dam *or queen* that has accepted the animal.

B. *Dealers shall provide all dogs and cats with current vaccinations against contagious and infectious diseases, as recommended in writing and considered appropriate for the animal's age and breed by a licensed veterinarian, or pursuant to written recommendations provided by the manufacturer of such vaccines at least five days before any new owner takes possession of the animal. For dogs, the vaccinations required by this subsection shall include at a minimum canine distemper, adenovirus type II parainfluenza, and parvovirus. For cats, the vaccinations required by this subsection shall include at a minimum rhinotracheitis, calicivirus, and panleukopenia. Dealers shall provide the new owner with the dog's or cat's immunization history.*

C. A violation of this section is *punishable* as a Class 3 misdemeanor.