

LD8620200

HOUSE BILL NO. 1958

Offered January 20, 1995

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

Patrons—DeBoer, Cooper, Councill, Grayson, Hargrove, Ingram, Keating, Morgan, Shuler and Woodrum; Senators: Hawkins, Howell and Trumbo

Referred to Committee on Agriculture

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 or cat under the age of eight weeks without its dam*. Dealers may offer immature fowl, ~~or~~ unweaned mammalian companion animals *or dogs and cats under the age of eight weeks* for sale as pets or novelties with the requirement that prospective owners take possession of the animals only after fowl reach two months of age, ~~and~~ mammalian companion animals have been weaned, *and dogs and cats are at least eight 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 a lactating surrogate dam 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, 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, calici, and panleukopenia. Dealers shall provide the new owner with the dog's or cat's immunization history.*

C. Violation of this section is a Class 3 misdemeanor.

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