

VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY -- 1996 SESSION

CHAPTER 351

An Act to amend and reenact §§ 3.1-796.97 and 3.1-796.97:1 of the Code of Virginia, relating to rabies inoculation of dogs and cats.

[H 523]

Approved March 22, 1996

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That §§ 3.1-796.97 and 3.1-796.97:1 of the Code of Virginia are amended and reenacted as follows:

§ 3.1-796.97. Evidence showing inoculation for rabies prerequisite to obtaining dog or cat license; rabies clinics.

No license tag shall be issued for any dog or cat unless there is presented, to the treasurer or other officer of the county or city charged by law with the duty of issuing license tags for dogs and cats at the time application for license is made, evidence satisfactory to him showing that such dog or cat has been inoculated or vaccinated against rabies by a currently licensed veterinarian *or currently licensed veterinary technician who was under the immediate and direct supervision of a licensed veterinarian on the premises.*

Rabies clinics, approved by the appropriate health department and governing body, shall be held at least once per year in each county in which the governing body finds that the number of resident veterinarians is otherwise inadequate to meet the need.

§ 3.1-796.97:1. Rabies inoculation of dogs and domesticated cats; availability of certificate.

The owner or custodian of all dogs and domesticated cats four months of age and older shall have them currently vaccinated for rabies by a licensed veterinarian, ~~who shall provide the owner of the dog or the custodian of the domesticated cat with a certificate of vaccination or licensed veterinary technician who is under the immediate and direct supervision of a licensed veterinarian on the premises.~~ *The supervising veterinarian on the premises shall provide the owner of the dog or the custodian of the domesticated cat with a certificate of vaccination.* The owner of the dog or the custodian of the domesticated cat shall furnish within a reasonable period of time, upon the request of an animal warden, humane investigator, law-enforcement officer, or official of the Department of Health, the certificate of vaccination for such dog or cat. The vaccine used shall be licensed by the United States Department of Agriculture for use in that species.