

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 49th Legislature (2003)

HOUSE BILL HB1011

By: Erwin

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to crimes and punishments; authorizing the Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food, and Forestry to conduct certain inspection of certain places where animals are kept and housed; specifying purpose; providing for promulgation of rules; defining term; making term not include livestock; providing for codification; and providing an effective date.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 1685.2 of Title 21, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

A. The Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food, and Forestry shall have the power to conduct inspections of animal shelters, and companion animal rescue agencies; and inspect any business premises where companion animals are housed or kept, including any boarding establishment, kennel, pet shop, pound, or the business premises of any dealer, exhibitor or groomer, at any reasonable time, for the purposes of determining if a violation of Section 1685 of Title 21 of the Oklahoma Statutes or rules promulgated by the State Board of Agriculture thereto has occurred.

B. The Board shall promulgate rules for the proper care and treatment of companion animals.

C. For purposes of this section, the term "companion animals" means any animal that is commonly kept by persons as a pet or for companionship. The term "companion animal" includes but is not limited to:

1. Dogs and puppies;
2. Cats and kittens;
3. Domesticated rabbits not kept or produced for food purposes;
4. Birds not kept for food purposes; and
5. Ferrets.

The term "companion animals" shall not include livestock as such term is defined by the Oklahoma Agriculture Code or animals produced commercially for food.

SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2003.

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