

1 ENGROSSED HOUSE  
2 BILL NO. 2370

By: Nollan and Renegar of the  
House

3 and

4 Fields of the Senate

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7 An Act relating to public health and safety; amending  
8 63 O.S. 2011, Section 1-508, which relates to animal  
9 quarantine; requiring rabies vaccination; providing  
10 exemption; and providing an effective date.

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

12 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 63 O.S. 2011, Section 1-508, is  
13 amended to read as follows:

14 Section 1-508. A. 1. The State Board of Health may adopt such  
15 rules as it deems necessary for the quarantine, isolation,  
16 impounding, immunization and disposal of an animal to prevent and  
17 control any zoonotic disease. Rules of the Board shall consider,  
18 but not be limited to:

- 19 a. prior rabies vaccinations,  
20 b. the degree of exposure to rabies,  
21 c. the history and prior behavior of the animal prior to  
22 exposure, and  
23 d. the willingness of the individual so exposed to submit  
24 to post-exposure antirabies immunization.

1       2. The owner or custodian of a domestic dog, cat or ferret  
2 shall cause the animal to be vaccinated against rabies by the time  
3 the animal is four (4) months of age and at regular intervals  
4 thereafter according to the label directions of an approved rabies  
5 vaccine for use in that species; provided, that if the veterinarian,  
6 in his or her professional opinion and discretion, determines it is  
7 not in the best interest of the animal's health to receive the  
8 vaccination, the veterinarian shall issue to the animal's owner or  
9 custodian a certificate stating the reasons for abstaining from the  
10 vaccination.

11       3. The President of the State Board of Agriculture and the  
12 Director of Wildlife Conservation shall be requested to make  
13 recommendations on pertinent phases affecting their official duties  
14 before such rules are promulgated by the State Board of Health.

15       B. 1. Whenever the State Commissioner of Health or a designee  
16 determines that any zoonotic disease exists in any area or that a  
17 person has suffered an exposure to any such disease, the  
18 Commissioner shall have authority to issue an order declaring a  
19 quarantine, isolation, impounding, immunization or disposal of any  
20 animal determined to be the source of such disease or exposure  
21 according to rules promulgated by the State Board of Health. The  
22 Commissioner shall, assisted by the State Board of Agriculture and  
23 the Director of Wildlife Conservation, cause such quarantine,  
24 isolation, impounding, immunization or disposal to be enforced.

1           2. Public officers and employees acting within the scope of  
2 their authority in implementing or enforcing any such order, or  
3 rules promulgated for the control of zoonotic disease, shall not be  
4 held liable for damages resulting from their official acts.

5           C. It shall be unlawful for any person to willfully fail or  
6 refuse to comply with a lawful order of the State Commissioner of  
7 Health declaring a quarantine, isolation, impounding, immunization  
8 or disposal. Any person convicted of violating the provisions of  
9 this subsection shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and may be punished  
10 by a fine of not more than One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00), by  
11 imprisonment in the county jail for not more than thirty (30) days,  
12 or by both such fine and imprisonment.

13           D. District courts shall be authorized to grant injunctive  
14 relief, including temporary injunctions and temporary restraining  
15 orders, to compel compliance with a quarantine, isolation,  
16 impounding, immunization or disposal order issued by the  
17 Commissioner pursuant to this section.

18           SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2016.  
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1 Passed the House of Representatives the 1st day of March, 2016.

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4 Presiding Officer of the House  
of Representatives

5 Passed the Senate the \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2016.

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9 Presiding Officer of the Senate