

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

SENATE BILL NO. 566

96TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY SENATOR BROWN.

Pre-filed December 14, 2011, and ordered printed.

TERRY L. SPIELER, Secretary.

4598S.011

AN ACT

To amend chapter 322, RSMo, by adding thereto one new section relating to vaccination of dogs and cats against rabies, with a penalty provision.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Missouri, as follows:

Section A. Chapter 322, RSMo, is amended by adding thereto one new section, to be known as section 322.035, to read as follows:

322.035. 1. As used in this section, the following terms shall mean:

(1) "Cat", any domestic feline animal (*felis catus*);

(2) "Dog", any domestic canine animal (*canis familiaris*);

(3) "Harbor", the same definition as in section 578.005;

(4) "Owner", any person who keeps or harbors an animal, but shall not include veterinarians or kennel operators who have temporary custody for a period of less than sixty days of animals owned by other persons;

(5) "Vaccinated against rabies", in receipt of a primary rabies vaccine or receipt of a booster vaccine administered in accordance with the current Compendium of Animal Rabies Prevention and Control prepared by the National Association of State Public Health Veterinarians. Such rabies vaccinations shall be performed by a veterinarian;

(6) "Veterinarian", the same definition as in section 340.200.

2. The owner of every dog or cat in this state shall ensure that such dog or cat is vaccinated against rabies. Each dog or cat shall be vaccinated initially and periodically for rabies:

(1) As determined appropriate by a veterinarian based on the age of the dog or cat and the type of rabies vaccine administered; or

22 **(2) As required by an applicable municipal or county ordinance.**
23 **Each such vaccination shall be kept current for each dog or cat.**
24 **3. Any owner who violates this section is guilty of a class C**
25 **misdemeanor for each dog or cat.**

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