HB 1257 2013

A bill to be entitled 1 2 An act relating to sales of dogs and cats; amending s. 3 828.29, F.S.; requiring that a certificate of 4 veterinary inspection for a dog or cat offered for 5 sale within the state or by a seller located within 6 the state be prepared by a veterinarian licensed by 7 the state of the dog or cat's origin; specifying 8 additional diseases and conditions that a certificate 9 of veterinary inspection must address; requiring additional information to be included in the 10 11 certificate; reducing the time period in which the 12 veterinary examination must take place; providing 13 requirements for the display of the official certificate of veterinary inspection or other 14 15 specified information; prohibiting the knowing 16 misrepresentation of the origin of a cat or dog; creating s. 828.295, F.S.; providing definitions; 17 prohibiting the offer for sale or donation of cats and 18 dogs at certain locations; providing exceptions; 19 20 providing criminal penalties; providing enhanced criminal penalties for certain violations; providing 21 22 an effective date.

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Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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Section 1. Subsections (1), (2), (3), (4), and (16) of section 828.29, Florida Statutes, are amended to read: 828.29 Dogs and cats transported or offered for sale;

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CODING: Words stricken are deletions; words underlined are additions.

health and notice requirements; consumer guarantee.-

- (1) (a) For each dog transported into the state for sale, the tests, vaccines, and anthelmintics required by this section must be administered by or under the direction of a veterinarian, licensed by the state of origin of the dog and accredited by the United States Department of Agriculture, who issues the official certificate of veterinary inspection. The tests, vaccines, and anthelmintics must be administered no more than 30 days and no less than 14 days before the dog's entry into the state. The official certificate of veterinary inspection certifying compliance with this section must accompany each dog transported into the state for sale.
- seller located within the state, the tests, vaccines, and anthelmintics required by this section must be administered by or under the direction of a veterinarian, licensed by the state of origin of the dog and accredited by the United States

  Department of Agriculture, who issues the official certificate of veterinary inspection. The tests, vaccines, and anthelmintics must be administered before the dog is offered for sale in the state or by a seller located within the state, unless the licensed, accredited veterinarian certifies on the official certificate of veterinary inspection that to inoculate or deworm the dog is not in the best medical interest of the dog, in which case the vaccine or anthelmintic may not be administered to that particular dog. Each dog must receive vaccines and anthelmintics against the following diseases and internal parasites:
  - 1. Canine distemper.

2. Leptospirosis.

- 3. Bordetella (by intranasal inoculation or by an alternative method of administration if deemed necessary by the attending veterinarian and noted on the health certificate, which must be administered in this state once before sale).
  - 4. Parainfluenza.
  - 5. Hepatitis.
  - 6. Canine parvo.
- 7. Rabies, provided the dog is over 3 months of age and the inoculation is administered by a licensed veterinarian.
  - 8. Roundworms.
  - 9. Hookworms.

If the dog is under 4 months of age, the tests, vaccines, and anthelmintics required by this section must be administered no more than 21 days before sale within the state. If the dog is 4 months of age or older, the tests, vaccines, and anthelmintics required by this section must be administered at or after 3 months of age, but no more than 1 year before sale within the state.

(2) (a) For each cat transported into the state for sale, the tests, vaccines, and anthelmintics required by this section must be administered by or under the direction of a veterinarian, licensed by the state of origin of the cat and accredited by the United States Department of Agriculture, who issues the official certificate of veterinary inspection. The tests, vaccines, and anthelmintics must be administered no more than 30 days and no less than 14 days before the cat's entry

into the state. The official certificate of veterinary inspection certifying compliance with this section must accompany each cat transported into the state for sale.

- seller located within the state, the tests, vaccines, and anthelmintics required by this section must be administered by or under the direction of a veterinarian, licensed by the state of origin of the cat and accredited by the United States Department of Agriculture, who issues the official certificate of veterinary inspection. The tests, vaccines, and anthelmintics must be administered before the cat is offered for sale in the state or by a seller located within the state, unless the licensed, accredited veterinarian certifies on the official certificate of veterinary inspection that to inoculate or deworm the cat is not in the best medical interest of the cat, in which case the vaccine or anthelmintic may not be administered to that particular cat. Each cat must receive vaccines and anthelmintics against the following diseases and internal parasites:
  - 1. Panleukopenia.
  - 2. Feline viral rhinotracheitis.
  - 3. Calici virus.
- 4. Rabies, if the cat is over 3 months of age and the inoculation is administered by a licensed veterinarian.
  - 5. Hookworms.
  - 6. Roundworms.

111 If the cat is

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more than 21 days before sale within the state. If the cat is 4 months of age or older, the tests, vaccines, and anthelmintics required by this section must be administered at or after 3 months of age, but no more than 1 year before sale within the state.

- (3) (a) Each dog or cat subject to subsection (1) or subsection (2) must be accompanied by a current official certificate of veterinary inspection at all times while being offered for sale within the state or by a seller located within the state. The examining veterinarian must retain one copy of the official certificate of veterinary inspection on file for at least 1 year after the date of examination. At the time of sale of the animal, one copy of the official certificate of veterinary inspection must be given to the buyer. The seller must retain one copy of the official certificate of veterinary inspection on record for at least 1 year after the date of sale.
- (b) The term "official certificate of veterinary inspection" means a legible certificate of veterinary inspection signed by the examining veterinarian licensed by the <u>animal's</u> state of origin and accredited by the United States Department of Agriculture, that shows the age, sex, breed, color, and health record of the dog or cat, the printed or typed names and addresses of the person or business from whom the animal was obtained, the consignor or seller, the consignee or purchaser, and the examining veterinarian, and the veterinarian's license number. The official certificate of veterinary inspection must list all vaccines and deworming medications administered to the dog or cat, including the manufacturer, vaccine, type, lot

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number, expiration date, and the dates of administration thereof, and must state that the examining veterinarian warrants that, to the best of his or her knowledge, the animal has no sign of contagious or infectious diseases, including, but not limited to, bordetella, and has no evidence of internal or external parasites, including, but not limited to, coccidiosis, giardia, and ear mites, but excluding fleas and ticks. The Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services shall supply the official intrastate certificate of veterinary inspection required by this section at cost. The official certificate of veterinary inspection must include the printed or typed full name and address of the breeder of the animal, any United States Department of Agriculture license number and state-issued license number of the breeder, and any federal or tax identification number and employer identification number of the breeder.

(c) The examination of each dog and cat by a veterinarian must take place no more than 15 30 days before date of the sale or the date of the transfer of the animal, whichever is later, within the state or by a seller located within the state. The examination must include, but not be limited to, a fecal test to determine whether if the dog or cat is free of internal parasites, including hookworms, roundworms, tapeworms, and whipworms. If the examination warrants, the dog or cat must be treated with a specific anthelmintic. In the absence of a definitive parasitic diagnosis, each dog or cat must be given a broad spectrum anthelmintic. Each dog over 6 months of age must also be tested for heartworms. Each cat must also be tested for

feline leukemia before being offered for sale in the state. All of these tests must be performed by or under the supervision of a licensed veterinarian, and the results of the tests must be listed on the official certificate of veterinary inspection.

- (d) All dogs and cats offered for sale and copies of certificates held by the seller and veterinarian are subject to inspection by any agent of the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, any agent of the United States Department of Agriculture, any law enforcement officer, or any agent appointed under s. 828.03.
- (e) For a dog subject to paragraph (1) (b) or a cat subject to paragraph (2) (b), if the animal is offered for sale:
- 1. At a retail pet store, the official certificate of veterinary inspection must be continuously displayed on or next to the enclosure of the animal so as to be readable by any interested customer.
- 2. Via the Internet, the official certificate of veterinary inspection must be continuously displayed or continuously made available on the webpage on which the animal appears for sale so as to be readable by any interested customer.
- 3. Via any other means, the seller must disclose the printed or typed full name and full address of the breeder of the animal, any United States Department of Agriculture license number and state-issued license number of the breeder, and any federal or tax identification number and employer identification number of the breeder.
  - (4) A person may not transport into the state for sale or

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offer for sale <u>as a seller located</u> within the state any dog or cat that is less than 8 weeks of age.

- (16) A pet dealer may not knowingly misrepresent the breed, sex, <u>origin</u>, or health of any dog or cat offered for sale within the state.
- Section 2. Section 828.295, Florida Statutes, is created to read:
  - 828.295 Sales of live dogs and cats prohibited in certain locations.—
    - (1) As used in this section, the term:

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- (a) "Highway" means the entire width between the boundary lines of every way or place of whatever nature, publicly maintained and open to the use of the public for the purpose of vehicular travel, including, but not limited to, streets, bridges, causeways, tunnels, and ferries.
- (b) "Right-of-way" means the privilege of the immediate use of the highway.
- (2) (a) A person may not willfully sell, offer for sale or exchange, offer for donation, display, or donate any live dog or cat on any highway or right-of-way; at any flea market, commercial or retail parking lot, public park, public playground, public swimming pool, or any other public recreational area; or on any property adjacent to such a location within the state, regardless of whether the person's access to the location is authorized.
  - (b) This section does not apply to:
- 223 <u>1. A humane society registered with the Department of</u>
  224 State, a municipal or county animal control unit, any society or

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association for the prevention of cruelty to animals, or a nonprofit organization sponsoring a dog or cat adoption event.

- 2. The offering of dogs or cats for sale at a private residence.
- 3. The offering of dogs or cats for sale by a paid entrant to a competitive cat or dog show, provided that the sale occurs on the premises and within the confines of the show.
- (3) (a) Except as provided in paragraphs (b) and (c), a person who violates this section commits a misdemeanor of the second degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083.
- (b) A person who violates this section for the first time and by that violation causes or permits a live dog or cat to suffer or be injured, or causes or permits a live dog or cat to be placed in a situation in which its life or health may be endangered, commits a misdemeanor of the first degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083.
- (c) A person who violates this section for a second or subsequent time commits a misdemeanor of the first degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083.
- Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2013.