2014

| 1 | A bill to be entitled |
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| 2 | An act relating to the commercial breeding and selling |
| 3 | of animals; providing definitions; requiring |
| 4 | commercial breeders and dealers to comply with certain |
| 5 | federal animal welfare standards and rules adopted by |
| 6 | the Department of Business and Professional |
| 7 | Regulation; requiring commercial breeders and dealers |
| 8 | to register with the department; providing penalties; |
| 9 | providing registration and fee requirements; providing |
| 10 | for the inspection of certain facilities; authorizing |
| 11 | the department to adopt rules; providing |
| 12 | applicability; requiring retail pet stores to provide |
| 13 | certain information to the department; providing an |
| 14 | effective date. |
| 15 | |
| 16 | Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida: |
| 17 | |
| 18 | Section 1. Commercial breeding and selling of animals |
| 19 | (1) As used in this section, the term: |
| 20 | (a) "Animal" means a dog or cat as defined in 9 C.F.R. s. |
| 21 | <u>1.1.</u> |
| 22 | (b) "Commercial breeder" means a person, partnership, |
| 23 | firm, corporation, or other entity that: |
| 24 | 1. Owns, possesses, controls, or otherwise has custody of |
| 25 | female animals with intact sexual organs; |
| 26 | 2. Is engaged in the business of breeding animals for |
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27 sale; and 3. Sells 16 or more animals during any 12-month period. 28 "Dealer" means a person, partnership, firm, 29 (C) corporation, or other entity, excluding a retail pet store, that 30 31 for profit or compensation is engaged in the business of: 32 1. Buying, selling, or offering to sell animals; 33 Transferring animals at wholesale for resale to 2. 34 another; or 3. Offering to sell or maintaining animals at wholesale 35 for resale to another as defined in 9 C.F.R. s. 1.1. 36 (d) 37 "Department" means the Department of Business and 38 Professional Regulation. 39 "Federal animal welfare standards" means the (e) requirements for humane handling, care, treatment, housing, 40 41 temperature, exhibition, and transportation of animals under 9 42 C.F.R. part 3. "Retail pet store" means a place of business as 43 (f) defined in 9 C.F.R. s. 1.1. 44 45 (2) (a) A commercial breeder or dealer in this state, 46 regardless of whether the breeder or dealer is subject to 47 regulation by the United States Department of Agriculture under 48 9 C.F.R. part 2, must comply with the federal animal welfare 49 standards. If the United States Department of Agriculture amends 50 the federal animal welfare standards, the department may adopt 51 rules requiring that commercial breeders and dealers comply with 52 the amended standards.

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| 53 | (b) A commercial breeder or dealer must register with the |
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| 54 | department on a form prescribed by the department before |
| 55 | engaging in the business of breeding animals for sale or buying, |
| 56 | selling, or offering to sell animals; transferring animals at |
| 57 | wholesale for resale to another; or offering to sell or |
| 58 | maintaining animals at wholesale for resale to another. |
| 59 | (c) Effective January 1, 2015, a commercial breeder who |
| 60 | engages in the business of breeding animals for sale, or a |
| 61 | dealer who engages in the business of buying, selling, or |
| 62 | offering to sell animals; transferring animals at wholesale for |
| 63 | resale to another; or offering to sell or maintaining animals at |
| 64 | wholesale for resale to another, without being registered with |
| 65 | the department under this section commits a felony of the third |
| 66 | degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. |
| 67 | 775.084, Florida Statutes. |
| 68 | (3)(a) A registration application must include the address |
| 69 | of each location where the commercial breeder or dealer houses |
| 70 | animals, including the address where the breeder's or dealer's |
| 71 | mobile or traveling housing facilities are kept. The commercial |
| 72 | breeder or dealer must allow the department to inspect any |
| 73 | location or mobile or traveling housing facility where animals |
| 74 | are housed. Before housing animals at any other location or |
| 75 | using any other mobile or traveling housing facility, a |
| 76 | commercial breeder or dealer must notify the department of such |
| 77 | location or facility on a form prescribed by the department. |
| 78 | (b) An application for an initial or renewal registration |
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| 79 | must be accompanied by a registration fee prescribed by the |
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| 80 | department which, in the aggregate, does not exceed the |
| 81 | department's actual costs of administering this section. |
| 82 | (c) The department must conduct an onsite inspection of |
| 83 | each location or mobile or traveling housing facility and shall |
| 84 | approve a commercial breeder or dealer's application if the |
| 85 | application is complete and accompanied by the registration fee |
| 86 | and, upon inspection, the department determines that the |
| 87 | commercial breeder or dealer has complied with the federal |
| 88 | animal welfare standards pursuant to paragraph (2)(a). The |
| 89 | department must annually reinspect each location or mobile or |
| 90 | traveling housing facility where a commercial breeder or dealer |
| 91 | houses animals. |
| 92 | (d) Except as provided in this paragraph, a registration |
| 93 | is valid for 2 years. A registration must be renewed on or |
| 94 | before its expiration date. In order to establish staggered |
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| 95 | expiration dates, the department may extend the expiration date |
| 95 96 | expiration dates, the department may extend the expiration date of an initial registration for a period not to exceed 12 months. |
| | |
| 96 | of an initial registration for a period not to exceed 12 months. |
| 96 97 | of an initial registration for a period not to exceed 12 months. A registration is only valid for the location or mobile or |
| 96 97 98 99 | of an initial registration for a period not to exceed 12 months. A registration is only valid for the location or mobile or traveling housing facility listed on the registration. |
| 96 97 98 99 100 | of an initial registration for a period not to exceed 12 months. <u>A registration is only valid for the location or mobile or</u> <u>traveling housing facility listed on the registration.</u> <u>(4) If the department determines that a commercial breeder</u> |
| 96 97 98 | of an initial registration for a period not to exceed 12 months. <u>A registration is only valid for the location or mobile or</u> <u>traveling housing facility listed on the registration.</u> <u>(4) If the department determines that a commercial breeder</u> <u>or dealer has violated or is operating in violation of this</u> |
| 96 97 98 99 100 101 | of an initial registration for a period not to exceed 12 months. <u>A registration is only valid for the location or mobile or</u> <u>traveling housing facility listed on the registration.</u> <u>(4) If the department determines that a commercial breeder</u> <u>or dealer has violated or is operating in violation of this</u> <u>section or rules or orders issued pursuant to this section, the</u> |
| 96 97 98 99 100 101 102 | of an initial registration for a period not to exceed 12 months. <u>A registration is only valid for the location or mobile or</u> <u>traveling housing facility listed on the registration.</u> <u>(4) If the department determines that a commercial breeder</u> <u>or dealer has violated or is operating in violation of this</u> <u>section or rules or orders issued pursuant to this section, the</u> <u>department may enter an order for any of the following:</u> |

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| 105 | (b) Imposing an administrative fine not to exceed \$5,000 |
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| 106 | for each violation. |
| 107 | (c) Directing the commercial breeder or dealer to cease |
| 108 | and desist specified activities. |
| 109 | (d) Refusing to register or revoking or suspending a |
| 110 | registration. |
| 111 | (e) Placing the registrant on probation for a specified |
| 112 | period, subject to the conditions specified by the department. |
| 113 | (5) Administrative proceedings seeking the entry of an |
| 114 | order imposing any of the penalties specified in subsection (4) |
| 115 | shall be governed by chapter 120, Florida Statutes. |
| 116 | (6) The department may adopt rules to administer this |
| 117 | section. |
| 118 | (7) This section does not apply to: |
| 119 | (a) A breeder who sells directly to the consumer 15 or |
| 120 | fewer animals per year that are born and raised on the breeder's |
| 121 | residential property. |
| 122 | (b) An exhibitor licensed under 9 C.F.R. part 2. |
| 123 | (c) A kennel operated for the breeding, sale, or care of |
| 124 | greyhounds that are not intended to be companion pets. |
| 125 | (d) A humane society. |
| 126 | (e) A public or private animal shelter. |
| 127 | (8) In order to enforce this section, a retail pet store |
| 128 | shall annually provide to the department a list of commercial |
| 129 | breeders and dealers from which the store purchases animals. |
| 130 | Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2014. |
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