

CHAPTER 153

H.B. No. 852

AN ACT

relating to the quarantine and testing of animals.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Texas:

SECTION 1. Section 3.04(a), Rabies Control Act of 1981 (Article 4477-6a, Vernon's Texas Civil Statutes), is amended to read as follows:

(a) *The local health authority shall quarantine or test in accordance with rules adopted by the board any animal that the local authority has probable cause to believe may have exposed a person to rabies* [~~The local health authority shall quarantine for at least 10 days any animal that the authority has probable cause to believe is rabid or has exposed an individual.~~].

SECTION 2. Section 5.01(a), Rabies Control Act of 1981 (Article 4477-6a, Vernon's Texas Civil Statutes), is amended to read as follows:

(a) A person commits an offense if he fails or refuses to quarantine or present for quarantine *or testing* any animal which:

(1) is required to be placed in quarantine *or presented for testing* under the provisions of Section 3.04 of this Act and the rules adopted by the department under the authority of this Act;

(2) is required to be placed in quarantine under the ordinances and/or rules of a county which is exercising the authority granted in Sections 2.02 and 3.01 of this Act and within whose jurisdiction the act occurs; or

(3) is required to be placed in quarantine under the ordinances and/or rules of an incorporated municipality which is exercising the authority granted in Sections 2.02 and 3.01 of this Act and within whose jurisdiction the act occurs.

SECTION 3. The change in law made by this Act to Section 5.01, Rabies Control Act of 1981 (Article 4477-6a, Vernon's Texas Civil Statutes), applies only to an offense that first occurs on or after the date this Act becomes effective. An offense that first occurred before the effective date of this Act is covered by the law as it existed at the time of the offense, and that law is continued in effect for that purpose.

SECTION 4. The importance of this legislation and the crowded condition of the calendars in both houses create an emergency and an imperative public necessity that the constitutional rule requiring bills to be read on three several days in each house be suspended, and this rule is hereby suspended.

Passed by the House on April 28, 1987, by a non-record vote. Passed by the Senate on May 13, 1987, by a viva-voce vote.

Approved May 21, 1987.

Effective Aug. 31, 1987, 90 days after date of adjournment.