

1 AN ACT concerning animals.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**  
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The Animal Control Act is amended by changing  
5 Section 8 as follows:

6 (510 ILCS 5/8) (from Ch. 8, par. 358)

7 Sec. 8. Rabies inoculation.

8 (a) Every owner of a dog 4 months or more of age shall have  
9 each dog inoculated against rabies by a licensed veterinarian.  
10 Every dog shall have a second rabies vaccination within one  
11 year of the first. Terms of subsequent vaccine administration  
12 and duration of immunity must be in compliance with USDA  
13 licenses of vaccines used.

14 (b) Every owner of a cat that is a companion animal and is  
15 4 months or more of age shall have each cat inoculated against  
16 rabies by a licensed veterinarian. Every cat that is a  
17 companion animal shall have a second rabies vaccination within  
18 one year of the first. Terms of subsequent vaccine  
19 administration and duration of immunity must be in compliance  
20 with USDA licenses of vaccines used. This subsection (b) does  
21 not apply to feral cats; however, if a feral cat is presented  
22 to a licensed veterinarian for sterilization, the feral cat  
23 shall be inoculated against rabies, unless the person

1 presenting the feral cat for care provides an inoculation  
2 certificate showing that the feral cat has been inoculated  
3 against rabies, and the cost of the inoculation shall be paid  
4 by the person presenting the feral cat to a licensed  
5 veterinarian for care.

6 (c) A veterinarian immunizing a dog, cat, or ferret against  
7 rabies shall provide the Administrator of the county in which  
8 the dog, cat, or ferret resides with a certificate of  
9 immunization. Evidence of such rabies inoculation shall be  
10 entered on a certificate the form of which shall be approved by  
11 the Board and which shall contain the microchip number of the  
12 dog, cat, or ferret if it has one and which shall be signed by  
13 the licensed veterinarian administering the vaccine. Only one  
14 dog, cat, or ferret shall be included on each certificate.

15 (d) Veterinarians who inoculate a dog shall procure from  
16 the County Animal Control in the county where their office is  
17 located serially numbered tags, one to be issued with each  
18 inoculation certificate. The Board shall cause a rabies  
19 inoculation tag to be issued, at a fee established by the Board  
20 for each dog inoculated against rabies.

21 (e) A veterinarian who inoculates a cat that is a companion  
22 animal shall issue an inoculation certificate to the owner  
23 which shall comply with any registration requirements adopted  
24 by the county under Section 3 of this Act. The owner shall pay  
25 any fee imposed by the county under Section 3 of this Act. A  
26 veterinarian who inoculates a feral cat shall issue an

1 inoculation certificate to the person who presented the feral  
2 cat for veterinary care.

3 (f) Rabies vaccine for use on animals shall be sold or  
4 distributed only to and used only by licensed veterinarians.  
5 Such rabies vaccine shall be licensed by the United States  
6 Department of Agriculture.

7 (g) If a licensed veterinarian determines in writing that a  
8 rabies inoculation would compromise an animal's health, then  
9 the animal shall be exempt from the rabies inoculation  
10 requirement, however, the owner is still responsible for the  
11 tag fees.

12 (h) If a bite occurs from an exempt animal, the exempt  
13 animal shall be treated as an unvaccinated animal. If the  
14 animal is exempt, the animal shall be re-examined by a licensed  
15 veterinarian on no less than an annual basis and be vaccinated  
16 against rabies as soon as the animal's health permits.

17 (Source: P.A. 99-658, eff. 7-28-16.)