

Debra Duncan
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STATE OF KANSAS
KANSAS ANIMAL HEALTH DEPARTMENT
George Teagarden, Livestock Commissioner

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January 16, 1996

Madame Chair and Members of the House Committee on
Agriculture:

My name is Debra Duncan and I am the Director of the
Animal Facilities Inspection Program for the Kansas Animal
Health Department. I am here in support of H.B. 2607. This
bill is a comprehensive revision of the Kansas Animal Dealer
Act which was enacted by the 1988 Legislature.

In my opinion, the Kansas Animal Dealer Act is a good
law. It has been used by numerous other states as a
framework and also was the basis for a United States Animal
Health Association task force on Animal Welfare. It is also,
unfortunately, a confusing law which is difficult for
breeders to understand and consequently, difficult for the
agency to enforce.

H.B. 2607 involves years of work by the Companion
Animal Advisory Board. The Board is unanimous in
recommending the changes. Most of the changes are technical
in nature. These changes either clarify terminology or
codify things that are currently office policy such as the
requirement that each premise must obtain only one license.

You have before you a six page summary section by
section of H.B. 2607. I will not go through the summary,
but will be glad to answer any questions that you have.

1-16 Senate Agriculture Committee
Date: 2-26-13
Attachment # 11-1
Sen Holmes KAHD letter relat-
ing to SB57

There are three substantive changes to the bill. The first involves the dog and cat breeder categories. Currently, we have three separate categories of breeders: Hobby kennels, animal dealers (wholesale breeders) and pet shops (retail breeders). Current law is based on the number of litters produced and sold. This bill would combine all three of these categories into one: animal breeder. Under this definition, anyone who maintains four or more sexually intact females and who sells, offers or maintains animals for sale, will fall into this license category. The four intact female rule has been the industry standard for people who sell dogs and cats at wholesale under federal law for many years. In addition to this change, two new license categories would be added: Animal wholesaler and out-of-state distributor.

1. Animal wholesaler is an individual who sells more than 20 animals, other than dogs, cats, fish or animals intended for food for other animals at wholesale during the license year. This license category would only cover those people who sell animals to pet stores or to research laboratories at wholesale.

2. Out-of-state distributor would require any person who does not reside in the state of Kansas to obtain a permit from the Animal Health Department to broker or distribute dogs or cats within the state. Several other states require our distributors to purchase permits to do business in their state. This permit would be a fee up to \$500.

The bill also:

- allows anyone required to be licensed under the act to obtain a temporary closing permit for \$75 rather than pay \$150 or \$300 to liquidate a kennel.
- makes it unlawful to threaten or harass an inspector carrying out his or her duties;
- establishes a late fee of \$50 for any license renewal that is more than 45 days late;
- codifies our policy that a premise only needs one license.
- defines adequate veterinary care and requires an on-site visit once a year and a program of disease control under the supervision of a veterinarian.
- expands the number of Advisory Board members to include representatives from all license categories.
- deletes the statutory definition of euthanasia and requires that all licensees and animal control officers comply with the guidelines promulgated by the AVMA Panel on Euthanasia.

As I mentioned, this bill exemplifies months of hard work from the nine members of the Advisory Board, all who represent different facets of the industry. I believe that this bill not only clarifies the law but treats all segments of the industry equitably.

Thank you for your consideration. I will be happy to answer any questions.