

March 18, 2009

**S 674. AMEND RABIES LAWS.** Filed 3/18/09. *TO AMEND THE RABIES LAWS TO CONFORM WITH RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF STATE PUBLIC HEALTH VETERINARIANS AND TO ALLOW STRAY OR FERAL ANIMALS TO BE IMMEDIATELY EUTHANIZED AND TESTED FOR RABIES AFTER BITING A HUMAN.*

To be summarized in tomorrow's *Daily Bulletin*.

**Intro. by Purcell.**

GS 130A

March 19, 2009

**S 674. AMEND RABIES LAWS.** Filed 3/18/09. *TO AMEND THE RABIES LAWS TO CONFORM WITH RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF STATE PUBLIC HEALTH VETERINARIANS AND TO ALLOW STRAY OR FERAL ANIMALS TO BE IMMEDIATELY EUTHANIZED AND TESTED FOR RABIES AFTER BITING A HUMAN.*

Amends various sections of GS Chapter 130A: (1) to define *stray* and *feral* animals; (2) to require ferrets to be vaccinated against rabies and to wear rabies vaccination tags (although they may be exempted from wearing tags by local ordinance); (3) to allow counties to charge an administrative charge and a cost for the rabies vaccine for dogs, cats, and ferrets (the current statute requires an administrative charge not to exceed four dollars per vaccination); (4) to specify what items must be included in the three-copy rabies vaccination certificate to be completed by the licensed veterinarian or certified rabies vaccinator who administers the vaccine to a dog, cat, or ferret; (5) to permit animal control officers to impound ferrets that are not wearing rabies vaccination tags or owner identification tags; (6) to require a two-week confinement of ferrets brought into NC (unless brought in for show or with a certificate showing that the ferret is free from rabies); (7) to require confinement of ferrets in an area declared under quarantine by the local health director; (8) to permit any peace officer or animal control officer to destroy uncontrolled ferrets, after a reasonable effort has been made to control the ferrets, when quarantine has been declared; (9) to require the owner of a ferret that has bitten someone to notify the local health director immediately and to require a veterinarian who has knowledge of any mammal biting someone to report to the local health director; (10) to permit the local health director or animal control officer to immediately euthanize a stray or feral dog, cat, or ferret that has bitten someone; and (11) to require the immediate destruction or quarantine of a ferret that has been exposed to rabies, unless the ferret has been vaccinated. Makes conforming changes.

**Intro. by Purcell.**

GS 130A

April 16, 2009

**S 674. AMEND RABIES LAWS.** Filed 3/18/09. Senate committee substitute makes the following changes to 1st edition. Makes clarifying changes in proposed amended GS 130A-184 to the definitions of *dog*, *feral*, *ferret*, and *stray*. Adds to the definition of *vaccination* that the rabies vaccine may also be administered by a registered veterinary technician under the direct supervision of a licensed veterinarian, as well as by a licensed veterinarian or a certified rabies vaccinator. Makes a conforming change to GS 130A-185.

Deletes in proposed amended GS 130A-189 (1) the list of items required to be included on the rabies vaccination certificate and (2) that the Secretary of Health and Human Services may adopt rules requiring that additional items be included on the certificate. Instead, provides that the Commission for Public Health must adopt rules establishing the specific information required to be included on the certificate. Makes technical changes.

Deletes from proposed amended GS 130A-196 that a dog, cat, or ferret that bites a person may be immediately euthanized if, in the opinion of the local health director or an animal control officer, the animal is a stray or feral. Instead, provides that in the event that a stray or feral dog, cat, or ferret bites a person, the local agency responsible for animal control must make a reasonable attempt to locate the animal's owner. If the owner cannot be identified within 72 hours, the local health director may authorize euthanasia of the animal and the head of the animal must be sent immediately to the State Laboratory of Public Health for rabies diagnosis.

Removes the requirement that a veterinarian who has knowledge of any mammal biting a person must report to the local health director the name, age, and sex of that person, if known, and the type and whereabouts of the mammal responsible for the bite, if known. Makes a conforming change to the title.

May 27, 2009

**S 674. AMEND RABIES LAWS.** Filed 3/18/09. Senate committee substitute makes the following changes to 2nd edition. Repeals GS 130A-188 providing for fees for vaccination at county rabies vaccination clinic and instead, locates the fee provisions in new subsection (b) under GS 130A-187. Increases the cap for the administrative fee to \$10 (was, cap of \$4 in the 1st edition and no cap given in the 2nd edition). Amends GS 130A-185 to list in one place the animals (dogs, cats, and ferrets) that are required to be vaccinated. Makes conforming changes to other provisions in GS Chapter 130A, substituting a listing of the animals that must be vaccinated with the collective term "animals." Makes organizational and technical changes.

May 28, 2009

**S 674. AMEND RABIES LAWS.** Filed 3/18/09. Senate amendment makes the following changes to 3rd edition. Changes the effective date from when the act becomes law to October 1, 2009.

June 25, 2009

**S 674. AMEND RABIES LAWS.** Filed 3/18/09. House committee substitute makes the following changes to 4th edition. Amends proposed GS 130A-196(a) to provide that if a stray or feral animal bites a person on a weekend or state holiday the 72 hour time period for attempting owner identification by the local animal control agency is to be extended 24 hours.

Clarifies in proposed amended GS 130A-195 that the statute applies to stray or feral animals (was, stray animals). Makes a conforming change to the statute's caption.

Also makes a technical change.

July 27, 2009

**SL 2009-327 (S 674). AMEND RABIES LAWS. AN ACT TO AMEND THE RABIES LAWS TO CONFORM WITH RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF STATE PUBLIC HEALTH VETERINARIANS AND TO ALLOW STRAY OR FERAL ANIMALS TO BE EUTHANIZED AND TESTED FOR RABIES AFTER BITING A HUMAN.** Summarized in *Daily Bulletin* 3/19/09, 4/16/09, 5/27/09, 5/28/09, and 6/25/09. Enacted July 24, 2009. Effective October 1, 2009.