

By: West

S.B. No. 248

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1
2 relating to authorizing the use of approved nonsurgical methods to
3 sterilize dogs and cats.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

5 SECTION 1. Section 828.001(3), Health and Safety Code, is
6 amended to read as follows:

7 (3) "Sterilization" means the surgical removal of the
8 reproductive organs of a dog or cat or the use of nonsurgical
9 methods and technologies approved by the U.S. Food and Drug
10 Administration to permanently render the animal unable to
11 reproduce.

12 SECTION 2. Section 828.004(c), Health and Safety Code, is
13 amended to read as follows:

14 (c) A releasing agency may extend the deadline for 30 days
15 on presentation of a written report from a licensed veterinarian
16 stating that the life or health of the adopted animal may be
17 jeopardized by sterilization [~~surgery~~]. There is no limit on the
18 number of extensions that may be granted under this subsection.

19 SECTION 3. Chapter 828, Health and Safety Code, is amended
20 by adding Section 828.0045 to read as follows:

21 Sec. 828.0045. NONSURGICAL STERILIZATION. A veterinarian
22 may use nonsurgical methods and technologies approved by the U.S.
23 Food and Drug Administration for use by veterinarians to humanely
24 and permanently render a dog or cat unable to reproduce.

1 SECTION 4. Section 828.005(a), Health and Safety Code, is
2 amended to read as follows:

3 (a) Except as provided by Section 828.006 or 828.007, each
4 new owner who signs a sterilization agreement under Section 828.002
5 shall deliver to the releasing agency from which the animal was
6 adopted a letter signed by the veterinarian who performed the
7 sterilization [~~surgery~~].

8 SECTION 5. Section 828.012(a), Health and Safety Code, is
9 amended to read as follows:

10 (a) Surgery or nonsurgical sterilization performed in
11 accordance with this chapter must be performed by a veterinarian or
12 a full-time student of an accredited college of veterinary medicine
13 as provided by Chapter 801, Occupations Code.

14 SECTION 6. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
15 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
16 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
17 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
18 Act takes effect September 1, 2005.