

AN ACT

relating to confidentiality of certain information in rabies vaccination certificates and dog and cat registries.

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

SECTION 1. Sections 826.0211(a) and (b), Health and Safety Code, are amended to read as follows:

(a) Information contained in a rabies vaccination certificate or in any record compiled from the information contained in one or more certificates that identifies or tends to identify an owner or an address, telephone number, or other personally identifying information of an owner of a vaccinated animal is confidential and not subject to disclosure under Chapter 552, Government Code. The information contained in the certificate or record may not include the social security number or the driver's license number of the owner of the vaccinated animal.

(b) The information may be disclosed only to a governmental entity or a person that, under a contract with a governmental entity, provides animal control services or animal registration services for the governmental entity for purposes related to the protection of public health and safety. A governmental entity or person that receives the information, including a county or municipality that registers dogs and cats under Subchapter D, must maintain the confidentiality of the information, may not disclose the information under Chapter 552, Government Code, and may not use

1 the information for a purpose that does not directly relate to the
2 protection of public health and safety.

3 SECTION 2. Sections 826.0311(a) and (b), Health and Safety
4 Code, are amended to read as follows:

5 (a) Information that is contained in a municipal or county
6 registry of dogs and cats under Section 826.031 that identifies or
7 tends to identify the owner or an address, telephone number, or
8 other personally identifying information of the owner of the
9 registered dog or cat is confidential and not subject to disclosure
10 under Chapter 552, Government Code. The information contained in
11 the registry may not include the social security number or the
12 driver's license number of the owner of the registered animal.

13 (b) The information may be disclosed only to a governmental
14 entity or a person that, under a contract with a governmental
15 entity, provides animal control services or animal registration
16 services for the governmental entity for purposes related to the
17 protection of public health and safety. A governmental entity or
18 person that receives the information must maintain the
19 confidentiality of the information, may not disclose the
20 information under Chapter 552, Government Code, and may not use the
21 information for a purpose that does not directly relate to the
22 protection of public health and safety.

23 SECTION 3. The change in law made by this Act to Sections
24 826.0211(a) and 826.0311(a), Health and Safety Code, applies only
25 to a certificate or registration issued, or record compiled, on or
26 after the effective date of this Act.

27 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives

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1 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
2 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
3 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
4 Act takes effect September 1, 2007.

President of the Senate

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 1728 was passed by the House on May 8, 2007, by the following vote: Yeas 146, Nays 0, 2 present, not voting.

Chief Clerk of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 1728 was passed by the Senate on May 23, 2007, by the following vote: Yeas 31, Nays 0.

Secretary of the Senate

APPROVED: _____

Date

Governor