

By: Aycock

H.B. No. 413

Substitute the following for H.B. No. 413:

By: Howard of Fort Bend

C.S.H.B. No. 413

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1
2 relating to the confidentiality of certain information held by a
3 veterinarian.

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

5 SECTION 1. Section 801.353, Occupations Code, is amended by
6 adding Subsections (d-1) and (g) and amending Subsection (f) to
7 read as follows:

8 (d-1) The privilege provided by this section is waived by
9 the client or the owner of the animal treated by the veterinarian in
10 a proceeding to substantiate and collect on a debt incurred for
11 veterinary services.

12 (f) A veterinarian does not violate this section by
13 providing the name or address of a client, or the rabies vaccination
14 status of a specific client's specific animal, to a public health
15 authority, veterinarian, or physician who requests the identity of
16 the client to obtain information for:

17 (1) the verification of a rabies vaccination; ~~or~~

18 (2) other treatment involving a life-threatening
19 situation; or

20 (3) a public health purpose.

21 (g) A public health authority that receives information
22 under Subsection (f) shall maintain the confidentiality of the
23 information, may not disclose the information under Chapter 552,
24 Government Code, and may not use the information for a purpose that

1 does not directly relate to the protection of public health and
2 safety.

3 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2011.