

By: Lucio III

H.B. No. 162

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT
2 relating to conditions of community supervision for defendants
3 convicted of certain criminal offenses involving animals;
4 authorizing fees.

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

6 SECTION 1. Article 42A.511, Code of Criminal Procedure, is
7 amended to read as follows:

8 Art. 42A.511. COMMUNITY SUPERVISION FOR CERTAIN OFFENSES
9 INVOLVING ANIMALS. (a) If a judge grants community supervision to
10 a defendant convicted of an offense under Section 42.09, 42.091,
11 42.092, or 42.10, Penal Code, the judge may require the defendant
12 to:

13 (1) complete an online responsible pet owner course
14 approved and certified by the Texas Department of Licensing and
15 Regulation; or

16 (2) attend a responsible pet owner course sponsored by
17 a municipal animal shelter, as defined by Section 823.001, Health
18 and Safety Code, that:

19 (A) [~~1~~] receives federal, state, county, or
20 municipal funds; and

21 (B) [~~2~~] serves the county in which the court is
22 located.

23 (b) For purposes of the online responsible pet owner course
24 described by Subsection (a)(1), the Texas Department of Licensing

1 and Regulation or the Texas Commission of Licensing and Regulation,
2 as appropriate:

3 (1) is responsible for the approval, certification,
4 and administration of the course and course providers;

5 (2) may charge fees for:

6 (A) initial and renewal course certifications;

7 (B) initial and renewal course provider
8 certifications;

9 (C) course participant completion certificates;

10 and

11 (D) other fees necessary for the administration
12 of the course and course providers;

13 (3) shall adopt rules regarding the administration of
14 the course and course providers, including rules regarding:

15 (A) the criteria for course approval and
16 certification;

17 (B) the criteria for course provider approval and
18 certification;

19 (C) curriculum development;

20 (D) course length and content;

21 (E) criteria for a participant to complete the
22 course; and

23 (F) a course completion certificate that is
24 acceptable to a court;

25 (4) is authorized to monitor and audit the provision
26 of the course by the course providers; and

27 (5) may take enforcement actions as appropriate to

1 enforce this subsection.

2 SECTION 2. Not later than March 1, 2018, the Texas
3 Department of Licensing and Regulation or the Texas Commission of
4 Licensing and Regulation, as appropriate, shall adopt rules to
5 implement Article [42A.511](#), Code of Criminal Procedure, as amended
6 by this Act.

7 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2017.