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By:  Hinojosa S.B. No. 276

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to notice of an infectious disease occurring in an animal shelter and the quarantine of certain infectious animals at the shelter.

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

SECTION 1.  Section 823.003(c), Health and Safety Code, is amended to read as follows:

(c)  An animal shelter may not confine healthy animals with sick, injured, or diseased animals. An animal shelter shall quarantine an animal with an infectious disease until the animal is no longer infectious.

SECTION 2.  Chapter 823, Health and Safety Code, is amended by adding Section 823.004 to read as follows:

Sec. 823.004.  REQUIRED NOTICE OF ANIMALS WITH INFECTIOUS DISEASES. (a) An animal shelter shall provide oral or written notice to a person who leaves an animal with the shelter to receive veterinary care of:

(1)  any animal at the shelter with an infectious disease at the time the person's animal is brought to or picked up from the shelter; and

(2)  an animal at the shelter diagnosed with an infectious disease during the time the person's animal is under the care of the shelter.

(b)  An animal shelter shall provide the notice required under Subsection (a)(2) at the time the shelter learns that an animal has been diagnosed with an infectious disease.

SECTION 3.  This Act takes effect September 1, 2021.