

By: Goodwin

H.B. No. 274

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1
2 relating to the licensing and regulation of dog and cat breeders;
3 expanding the applicability of an occupational license.

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

5 SECTION 1. Section 802.002(8), Occupations Code, is amended
6 to read as follows:

7 (8) "Dog or cat breeder" means a person who possesses
8 five [~~11~~] or more adult intact female animals and is engaged in the
9 business of breeding those animals for direct or indirect sale or
10 for exchange in return for consideration [~~and who sells or~~
11 ~~exchanges, or offers to sell or exchange, not fewer than 20 animals~~
12 ~~in a calendar year]~~.

13 SECTION 2. As soon as practicable after the effective date
14 of this Act, the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation shall
15 prescribe the forms and procedures necessary to implement the
16 changes in law made by this Act.

17 SECTION 3. Notwithstanding Section 802.002(8), Occupations
18 Code, as amended by this Act, a dog or cat breeder who possesses
19 five or more but fewer than 11 adult intact female animals and is
20 engaged in the business of breeding those animals for direct or
21 indirect sale or for exchange in return for consideration is not
22 required to hold a license under Chapter 802, Occupations Code, to
23 act as a dog or cat breeder before January 1, 2024.

24 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.