

By: A. Johnson of Harris

H.B. No. 3439

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT

2 relating to veterinary services performed on certain animals in  
3 the care of a releasing agency.

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

5 SECTION 1. Section 828.012(b), Health and Safety Code, is  
6 amended to read as follows:

7 (b) A veterinarian employed by a releasing agency may not  
8 perform nonemergency veterinary services other than sterilization  
9 on an animal that the releasing agency knows or should know has an  
10 owner. However, this subsection does not prevent a veterinarian  
11 employed by a releasing agency from performing veterinary services  
12 on an animal whose owner:

13 (1) is an individual or family whose income is:

14 (A) not more than 80 percent of the median income  
15 for the area in which the individual or family lives as determined  
16 using a source or methodology accepted under federal law or rule; or

17 (B) less than the federal poverty level for the  
18 relevant household size; and

19 (2) submits to the releasing agency evidence to  
20 establish the owner qualifies as an individual or family described  
21 by Subdivision (1) [~~is indigent~~].

22 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.