

By: Senator(s) Ross

To: Public Health and Welfare

SENATE BILL NO. 2086

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 41-53-5, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO
2 ALLOW THE OWNER OF EACH DOG OR CAT TO PURCHASE THE RABIES VACCINE
3 FROM A LICENSED VETERINARIAN AND TO VACCINATE THE DOG OR CAT,
4 UNLESS THE VETERINARIAN FINDS THE OWNER IS NOT COMPETENT; TO AMEND
5 SECTION 41-53-9, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, IN CONFORMITY THERETO;
6 AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI:

8 **SECTION 1.** Section 41-53-5, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
9 amended as follows:

10 41-53-5. All inoculations (vaccinations) done in accordance
11 with this chapter must be done by either a licensed veterinarian
12 or other competent person granted a permit to administer virus
13 (vaccine) by the State Board of Health. However, the owner of
14 each dog or cat may purchase the rabies virus (vaccine) from a
15 licensed veterinarian and may inoculate (vaccinate) the dog or
16 cat, unless the veterinarian finds that the owner is not competent
17 to do so. If the veterinarian does not sell the virus (vaccine)
18 to the owner because he finds that the owner is incompetent,
19 then the veterinarian shall report to the Department of Health his
20 finding, including the name and address of the owner, and his
21 reasons therefor.

22 **SECTION 2.** Section 41-53-9, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
23 amended as follows:

24 41-53-9. All persons administering virus (vaccine) in
25 accordance with this chapter shall furnish the owner of each dog
26 or cat inoculated (vaccinated) a certificate of inoculation
27 (vaccination) for each dog or cat inoculated (vaccinated)
28 indicating the breed of each dog or cat inoculated (vaccinated),
29 the sex of each dog or cat inoculated (vaccinated), and the

30 markings and the serial number of the tag attached to the collar
31 or some other device on each dog. Persons administering virus
32 (vaccine) in accordance with this chapter shall maintain records
33 of each inoculation, indicating the owner of each dog or cat
34 inoculated (vaccinated), the breed of each dog or cat inoculated
35 (vaccinated), the sex of each dog or cat inoculated (vaccinated),
36 and the markings and serial number of the tag furnished to the
37 owner of each dog. If the virus (vaccine) is administered by the
38 owner of the dog or cat, then the licensed veterinarian who
39 furnished the virus (vaccine) shall maintain records of each virus
40 (vaccine) dispensed, indicating the owner of each dog or cat to be
41 inoculated (vaccinated), the breed of each dog or cat to be
42 inoculated (vaccinated), and the markings and serial number of the
43 tag furnished to the owner of each dog.

44 **SECTION 3.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
45 and after July 1, 2004.