

1 H.447

2 Introduced by Representative Durfee of Shaftsbury

3 Referred to Committee on

4 Date:

5 Subject: Internal security and public safety; animals; domestic pet or wolf-
6 hybrid control; licenses; general provisions

7 Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to require
8 veterinarians and domestic pet owners to send copies of the current rabies
9 vaccine certificate for animal licensure to the municipal clerk.

10 An act relating to rabies vaccination certificate requirements for domestic
11 pet or wolf-hybrid licensure

12 It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

13 Sec. 1. 20 V.S.A. § 3581 is amended to read:

14 § 3581. GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

15 (a) A person who is the owner of a dog or wolf-hybrid more than six
16 months old shall annually on or before April 1 cause it to be registered,
17 numbered, described, and licensed on a form approved by the Secretary for one
18 year from that day in the office of the clerk of the municipality in which the
19 dog or wolf-hybrid is kept. A person who owns a working farm dog and who
20 intends to use that dog on a farm pursuant to the exemptions in section 3549 of

1 this title shall cause the working farm dog to be registered as a working farm
2 dog and shall, in addition to all other fees required by this section, pay \$5.00
3 for a working farm dog license. The owner of a dog or wolf-hybrid shall cause
4 it to wear a collar and attach a license tag issued by the municipal clerk to the
5 collar. Dog or wolf-hybrid owners shall pay for the license \$4.00 for each
6 neutered dog or wolf-hybrid, and \$8.00 for each unneutered dog or wolf-
7 hybrid. ~~If the license fee for any dog or wolf hybrid is not paid on or before~~
8 After April 1 of a given license year, its the owner or keeper may ~~thereafter~~
9 procure a license for that license year by paying a fee of 50 percent in excess
10 of that otherwise required.

11 (b) Before a person shall be entitled to obtain a license for a neutered dog
12 or wolf-hybrid, ~~he or she~~ the person shall exhibit to the clerk a certificate
13 signed by a duly licensed veterinarian showing that the dog or wolf-hybrid has
14 been sterilized.

15 * * *

16 (d)(1) Before obtaining a license for a dog or wolf-hybrid six months of
17 age or older, a person shall deliver to the municipal clerk a certificate or a
18 certified copy ~~thereof~~ issued by a duly licensed veterinarian, stating that the
19 dog or wolf-hybrid has received a current preexposure rabies vaccination with
20 a vaccine approved by the Secretary, and the person shall certify that the dog
21 or wolf-hybrid described in the certificate or copy is the dog or wolf-hybrid to

1 be licensed. The municipal clerk shall keep the certificates or copies thereof
2 on file. The Secretary shall prescribe the size and format of rabies certificates.
3 The owner of any such dog or wolf-hybrid shall maintain a copy of the rabies
4 vaccination ~~form~~ certificate and provide it to State or municipal officials upon
5 request.

6 (2) The rabies vaccination certificate shall include the following:

7 (A) the signature of the veterinarian;

8 (B) the dog or wolf-hybrid owner's name and address;

9 (C) the species, sex, age, color, and primary breed of the animal; and

10 (D) the vaccination number and expiration date.

11 (3) Veterinarians must present a list of rabies vaccinations to the
12 municipal clerk every 30 days.

13 * * *

14 Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE

15 This act shall take effect on July 1, 2025.