WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION, 1999

ENROLLED

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR
House Bill No. 2790

(By Delegates Kelley, Boggs, Yeager, Williams and Willis)

Passed March 13, 1999

In Effect Ninety Days from Passage
AN ACT to amend and reenact section nine-a, article twenty, chapter nineteen of the code of West Virginia, one thousand nine hundred thirty-one, as amended, relating to requiring confinement and vaccination or revaccination of any domestic animal bitten by a rabid animal; and providing penalties.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

That section nine-a, article twenty, chapter nineteen of the code of West Virginia, one thousand nine hundred thirty-one, as amended, be amended and reenacted to read as follows:

ARTICLE 20. DOGS AND CATS.

§19-20-9a. Dogs, cats, etc.; rabies observation.

1 (a) Any person who owns or harbors any dog, cat or other domesticated animal, whether licensed or unlicensed, which bites any person, shall forthwith confine and quarantine the animal for a period of ten days for rabies observation.
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(b) If any unvaccinated domesticated animal is bitten by a rabid animal, the owner shall confine the bitten animal for a period of six months. The animal shall be vaccinated or revaccinated after five months.

c) If the animal is not confined and quarantined as directed in subsections (a) and (b) of this section, the humane officer, dog warden or sheriff may cause the animal to be placed in the custody and care of a licensed veterinarian for that purpose at the owner’s expense. The penalty for any violation of this section is a fine of fifty dollars or confinement in the county or regional jail for a period of no less than two nor more than three days.
That Joint Committee on Enrolled Bills hereby certifies that the foregoing bill is correctly enrolled.

Chairman Senate Committee  

Chairman House Committee

Originating in the House.

Takes effect ninety days from passage.

Clerk of the Senate

Clerk of the House of Delegates

President of the Senate

Speaker of the House of Delegates

The within approved this the 2nd day of April, 1999.

Governor