

2022 -- H 7785

LC005252

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2022

A N A C T

RELATING TO ANIMALS AND ANIMAL HUSBANDRY -- ANIMAL DISEASES IN
GENERAL

Introduced By: Representative Brandon C. Potter

Date Introduced: March 03, 2022

Referred To: House Environment and Natural Resources

(Dept. of Environmental Management)

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 4-4-1 of the General Laws in Chapter 4-4 entitled "Animal Diseases
2 in General" is hereby amended to read as follows:

3 **4-4-1. Appointment of inspectors to inspect diseased animals -- Quarantine --**
4 **Veterinarians.**

5 (a) The director of environmental management may appoint one or more inspectors in the
6 state, whose duty it is to visit and inquire into the condition of any domestic animal in the state
7 whenever there is reason to suspect that any domestic animal, the carcass of any domestic animal
8 or tissues or products, is affected with ~~tuberculosis, or other~~ a contagious, infectious, zoonotic, or
9 communicable disease; and the inspectors are authorized to quarantine any ~~diseased~~ domestic
10 animal, the carcass of any diseased domestic animal, or restrict the movement of any tissues or
11 products produced by any domestic animal suspected of being affected with a contagious,
12 infectious, zoonotic, or communicable disease until such quarantine or movement restriction is
13 released by a veterinarian employed by the director. The director may also employ, from time to
14 time, any number of veterinary surgeons that he or she may find necessary to carry out the purposes
15 of this chapter.

16 (b) The director of the department of environmental management may establish quarantine
17 or control zones consistent with state and United States Department of Agriculture emergency plans
18 to restrict the movement of animals, animal carcasses, animal tissues, and animal products

1 suspected of being affected with a contagious, infectious, zoonotic or communicable disease. Any
2 control or quarantine zone established under this authority will remain in effect until the chief of
3 agriculture and/or the state veterinarian determine that the zone is no longer necessary to mitigate
4 the threat of disease.

5 (c) The director of the department of environmental management may order examination
6 or testing of any quarantined animal or animal in a quarantine or control zone for disease
7 surveillance purposes or as a term of the order of quarantine. The director may authorize qualified
8 department personnel to carry out any examination or testing or may order the testing to be
9 performed by a licensed veterinarian qualified to perform the testing.

10 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF

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- 1 This act would authorize the director of the department of environmental management to
2 establish quarantine zones for animals and would permit the examination of any quarantined animal
3 therein.
4 This act would take effect upon passage.

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