SECOND REGULAR SESSION

HOUSE BILL NO. 2723

102ND GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE CLEMENS.

5486H.01I

DANA RADEMAN MILLER, Chief Clerk

AN ACT

To amend chapter 273, RSMo, by adding thereto one new section relating to domestic pet
care, with a penalty provision.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the state of Missouri, as follows:

Section A. Chapter 273, RSMo, is amended by adding thereto one new section, to be
2 known as section 273.355, to read as follows:

273.355. 1. This section shall be known and may be cited as the "Healthy Pets
2 **Act".**

3 **2. Commercial breeders shall maintain healthy breeding practices by completing**
4 **the following on all animals used for breeding which shall be considered records of**
5 **parentage for any animals resulting from a breeding pair:**

6 **(1) Genetic testing to screen for genetic disorders common to the specific breed**
7 **of animal being tested;**

8 **(2) Any vaccinations as recommended by the department of agriculture;**

9 **(3) X-ray screening of any dog, as defined in section 273.040, to determine**
10 **presence or risk of hip dysplasia;**

11 **(4) An annual examination by a licensed veterinarian for the male of a breeding**
12 **pair with an accompanying photograph of the animal taken within two weeks before or**
13 **after each annual examination;**

14 **(5) An examination by a licensed veterinarian of an intact female prior to each**
15 **breeding cycle with an accompanying photograph of the animal taken within two weeks**
16 **before or after each examination and records of the number of breeding cycles**
17 **completed by each intact female;**

EXPLANATION — Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets **[thus]** in the above bill is not enacted and is
intended to be omitted from the law. Matter in **bold-face** type in the above bill is proposed language.

18   **(6)   Taking photographs, at least quarterly, of the enclosures where each**
19 **individual animal is housed and exercised and recording amounts of time spent in each**
20 **location; and**
21   **(7) Taking photographs, at least quarterly, of the complex in which all animals**
22 **being used for breeding are housed.**
23   **3. (1)   Commercial breeders shall complete the following prior to selling an**
24 **animal to any individual, dealer, or pet shop:**
25   **(a) Genetic testing to screen for genetic disorders common to the specific breed**
26 **of animal being tested;**
27   **(b) Any vaccinations as recommended by the department of agriculture for an**
28 **animal being sold or transferred;**
29   **(c) X-ray screening of any dog, as defined in section 273.040, to determine**
30 **presence or risk of hip dysplasia; and**
31   **(d) In the case of any dog, as defined in section 273.040, a review of any records**
32 **of socialization with other dogs and people.**
33   **(2)   The results of such genetic testing, records of vaccination, records of any**
34 **medical care and surgeries performed including, but not limited to, x-rays, tail docking,**
35 **ear cropping, or prophylactic use of antibiotics, and records of parentage shall be**
36 **transferred with the animal to the receiving party.**
37   **4. (1) Dealers and pet shops shall not purchase, exchange, or otherwise obtain**
38 **animals from any commercial breeder that has been:**
39   **(a)   Found to be in violation of any state or federal laws or regulations**
40 **promulgated by the department of agriculture or the United States Department of**
41 **Agriculture relating to the care or keeping of animals within the last three years; or**
42   **(b) Found guilty of animal abuse or neglect under section 578.009 or 578.012.**
43   **(2)   The attorney general shall have concurrent jurisdiction to enforce the**
44 **provisions of this subsection. Any dealer or pet shop who knowingly purchases an**
45 **animal in violation of this subsection shall be guilty of a class A misdemeanor and each**
46 **purchase of an animal shall constitute a separate offense. Second and subsequent**
47 **violations may be enhanced to a class E felony at the discretion of the attorney general**
48 **or prosecuting attorney.**
49   **5. Any dealer or pet shop found guilty of a third or subsequent offense under**
50 **subsection 4 of this section shall have its license immediately revoked under section**
51 **273.329 and shall be prohibited from engaging in the sale of animals.**
52   **6. Dealers and pet shops shall not buy, transfer, or exchange animals to a third**
53 **party or final consumer without providing:**
54   **(1) The results of genetic testing received from the commercial breeder;**

55   **(2) Records of all vaccinations received from the commercial breeder and any**
56 **additional vaccinations recommended by the department of agriculture between the**
57 **receipt of animals by dealers or pet shops from dealers or commercial breeders and**
58 **their transfer to the final consumer, which shall be completed by the dealer or pet shop**
59 **on the vaccination schedule recommended by the department of agriculture;**
60   **(3) Records of any medical care and surgeries performed including, but not**
61 **limited to, X-rays, tail docking, ear cropping, or prophylactic use of antibiotics; and**
62   **(4) Records of parentage.**
63   **7. Pet shops shall display prominently on the enclosure of each animal offered**
64 **for sale the:**
65   **(1) Total purchase price of the animal, including but not limited to any taxes,**
66 **fees, and licensing costs; and**
67   **(2) Name, city, state, and license number of the commercial breeder from which**
68 **the animal was purchased or otherwise obtained.**
69   **8. Each animal purchased from a dealer or pet shop shall be warrantied to be**
70 **free from genetic or major medical conditions not caused by physical injury while in the**
71 **care and control of the consumer for one year from the date of purchase. If any genetic**
72 **or major medical condition manifests prior to the expiration of the warranty period, the**
73 **dealer or pet shop shall be liable for:**
74   **(1) Reasonable medical costs to treat such genetic or major medical condition;**
75   **(2) Euthanasia, if a licensed veterinarian determines it is necessary for the**
76 **humane treatment of the animal; or**
77   **(3) Return and refund to the consumer at the consumer's discretion.**

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