

Committee Report

CONSENT CALENDAR

February 18, 2021

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

REPORT OF COMMITTEE

**The Committee on Environment and Agriculture to
which was referred HB 322,**

**AN ACT requiring a color photo of a dog, cat, or ferret
on a rabies vaccination certificate. Having considered
the same, report the same with the following resolution:
RESOLVED, that it is INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Barbara Comtois

FOR THE COMMITTEE

COMMITTEE REPORT

Committee:	Environment and Agriculture
Bill Number:	HB 322
Title:	requiring a color photo of a dog, cat, or ferret on a rabies vaccination certificate.
Date:	February 18, 2021
Consent Calendar:	CONSENT
Recommendation:	INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE

STATEMENT OF INTENT

Although the bill was well intentioned, the committee felt it would add additional costs to the pet owner, while not providing any benefits. Testimony received indicated pets of the same breed look alike and that features change as they grow into adulthood, rendering the photo ineffective.

Vote 19-0.

Rep. Barbara Comtois
FOR THE COMMITTEE

Original: House Clerk
Cc: Committee Bill File

CONSENT CALENDAR

Environment and Agriculture

HB 322, requiring a color photo of a dog, cat, or ferret on a rabies vaccination certificate.
INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.

Rep. Barbara Comtois for Environment and Agriculture. Although the bill was well intentioned, the committee felt it would add additional costs to the pet owner, while not providing any benefits. Testimony received indicated pets of the same breed look alike and that features change as they grow into adulthood, rendering the photo ineffective. **Vote 19-0.**

Voting Sheets

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
OFFICE OF THE HOUSE CLERK

02/17/2021 9:57:30 AM
Roll Call Committee Registers
Report



2021 SESSION

Environment and Agriculture

Bill #: HB322 Motion: ITL AM #: _____ Exec Session Date: February 17, 2021

<u>Members</u>	<u>YEAS</u>	<u>Nays</u>	<u>NV</u>
Pearl, Howard C. Chairman	X		
Aron, Judy F. Vice Chairman	X		
Comtois, Barbara Clerk	X		
Verville, Kevin G.	X		
Davis, Arnold G.	X		
Stapleton, Walter A.	X		
Homola, Susan	X		
Kennedy, Margaret Anne	X		
Mason, James L.	X		
Sanborn, Gail E.	X		
Bixby, Peter W.	X		
Sofikitis, Catherine M.	X		
Bouldin, Andrew J.	X		
Dutzy, Sherry	X		
Murray, Megan A.	X		
Von Plinsky, Sparky	X		
Caplan, Tony	X		
Hyland, Stephanie M.	X		
Perez, Maria	X		
TOTAL VOTE:	19	0	

Public Hearing

House Remote Testify

Environment and Agriculture Committee Testify List for Bill HB322 on 2021-02-17

Support: 3 Oppose: 99 Neutral: 0 Total to Testify: 2

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<u>Name</u>	<u>City, State</u> <u>Email Address</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Representing</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Testifying</u>	<u>Non-Germane</u>	<u>Signed Up</u>
Ferrari, Angela	angelaFerrari84@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Dog Owners of the Granite State	Oppose	Yes (3m)	No	2/16/2021 7:37 PM
Holmes, Nancy	fmkaffen@ix.netcom.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	Yes (0m)	No	2/15/2021 4:41 PM
Black, Kimberly	kimberly.black@ymail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2021 4:41 PM
Greenough, Peggie	dgreenough62@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/16/2021 2:04 AM
Greenough, Jr, David	dgreenough62@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/16/2021 2:11 AM
Greenough, Thomas	tjgreenough826@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/16/2021 2:18 AM
Tinker, Elaine	Etink0212@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2021 7:03 PM
St Hilaire, Emily	Leashlady1@aol.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2021 7:11 PM
Dubuque, Carol	Vtweims@aol.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2021 7:21 PM
Zalewski, Laurie	lauriejansmith@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2021 7:34 PM
Cote, Christine	Wccote@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2021 7:54 PM
Eliason, Cynthia	cyne@cmk4u.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2021 8:19 PM
Dewey, Karen	pkdewey@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2021 8:30 PM
Tennis, Laura	Laura.tennis1@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2021 8:40 PM
Manney, Jeanne	thekingswife@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2021 8:48 PM
Robb, Kalla	kalla.robbs@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2021 8:51 PM
Porter, Jandee	jandeeperporter@live.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2021 9:11 PM
Dudak, Colemann	dudak93@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2021 9:11 PM
Marino, John	techlon11@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2021 9:12 PM

COOK, GEORGE	georgecookiv@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2021 9:32 PM
Young, Scott	scott@animalpolicygroup.com	A Member of the Public	APG/Mars Veterinary	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2021 9:54 PM
Nuchow, Leslie	leslienuchow@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2021 9:59 PM
Hartzell, Emily	emilyhartzell@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2021 10:00 PM
Hutson, Caitlen	caitlenhutson@aol.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2021 10:49 PM
Rojas, Cali	calianne321@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2021 11:29 PM
Tzilianos, Harmony	harmonytz@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2021 11:30 PM
Rojas, Emily	emilyrojas27@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2021 11:43 PM
McGraw, Dan	dmcgraw52@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/16/2021 1:10 AM
Arivella, Joyce	nhdogs@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/16/2021 8:00 AM
Nickerson, Lana	fossmtfarm@msn.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/16/2021 8:22 AM
Fields, Marla	k9queen@metrocast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/16/2021 8:25 AM
Korfiatis, Maria	korfi309@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/16/2021 8:48 AM
VanPatten, Emily	emily.b.vanpatten@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/16/2021 8:55 AM
Camarota, Hon. Linda Rea	lrcamarota@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/16/2021 9:19 AM
Pike, Bonnie	suecross@msn.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/16/2021 9:33 AM
Richardson, Diane	Workingclasscanine@msn.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/16/2021 10:07 AM
Cates, Tammy	tjcates@eagleswind.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/16/2021 10:13 AM
Kishinevsky, Rebecca	rp.kishinevsky@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/16/2021 10:21 AM
Farley, Kathy	klindobes@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/16/2021 10:41 AM
Clifford, Nova	Novaclifford5@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/16/2021 10:53 AM
Williams, Cindy	honeypothounds@aol.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/16/2021 11:39 AM
Heckman, Martha	venturaknl@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/16/2021 11:49 AM
Stickney, Lacey	Lacey@birdsupplynh.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/16/2021 12:25 PM
Peterson, Kathy	KatPeters18@aol.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/16/2021 2:12 PM
Webster, Cynthia	clwebster@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/16/2021 2:22 PM
Heckman, Robert	venturaknl@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/16/2021 2:25 PM

Wicks, Patricia	Nhrotties@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/16/2021 2:45 PM
Witts, Laura	Drgussy@aol.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/16/2021 2:50 PM
Martin, Rachel	Rachelmar@protonmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/16/2021 3:17 PM
Judge, Donna	donnatjudge@gmail.com	An Elected Official	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/16/2021 3:35 PM
Schwartz, Raymond	Prismsdad@aol.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/16/2021 4:10 PM
MacIntyre, Karen	Mackzwinger@gmal.co	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/16/2021 4:43 PM
Anastasia, Patricia	patti.anastasia@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/16/2021 5:12 PM
Hope, Lucinda	lmhope46@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/16/2021 6:07 PM
Dimaggio, Thomas	anuskaknnls@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/16/2021 6:10 PM
McCartney, Evan	bebop0505@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/16/2021 6:33 PM
McCartney, Michelle	michelleredmond2000@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/16/2021 6:34 PM
ARONSON, LAURA	laura@mlans.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/16/2021 7:36 PM
Lewis, Laura	somerri@aol.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/16/2021 8:08 PM
Wiliams, Carol	kotzheritage@tds.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/16/2021 8:16 PM
Methot, Jennifer	jennifer.s.methot@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/16/2021 8:37 PM
Hayden, Sam	hayden.sam@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/17/2021 7:30 AM
Pedersen, Michael	PedersenUSA@aim.com	An Elected Official	Hillsborough 32	Oppose	No	No	2/16/2021 10:50 PM
Abramson, Max	Max.Abramson@leg.state.nh.us	An Elected Official	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/17/2021 1:06 AM
Krajewska, Andrea	Letnialynne@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/17/2021 1:10 AM
Hall, Edward	somerrijuj@aol.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/17/2021 7:15 AM
Greenwood, Nancy	nancgreenwood@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/17/2021 8:16 AM
Fedorchak, Gaye	gayevf@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/17/2021 10:02 AM
Enos, Liz	pwrmine@aol.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/17/2021 10:03 AM
Capellan, Jay	jay.lisacapellan@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/17/2021 10:12 AM
Capellan, Lisa	lisa71781@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/17/2021 10:13 AM
Longval, Becky	becky@hsfn.org	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/17/2021 10:42 AM
McLeod, Thomas	tmcleod@naturalhealth.media	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/17/2021 11:15 AM

Cedolin, Alexandra	Ahwhyte@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/17/2021 11:23 AM
Cedolin, Bradley	Bbcdolin@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/17/2021 11:24 AM
Wilson, Audra	h3islife@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/17/2021 11:25 AM
LaLone, Edward	LaLone.Edward@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/17/2021 11:26 AM
Bemis, Amanda	apells88@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/17/2021 11:31 AM
Groetzinger, Tonda	groetzinger6@aol.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/17/2021 12:24 PM
Bowers, Danielle	dannybowers81@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/17/2021 12:31 PM
Bowers, Steven	smbowers70@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/17/2021 12:33 PM
Bemis, Matt	xmattbemisx@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/17/2021 11:32 AM
Cushman, Leah	Weare, NH leah.cushman@leg.state.nh.us	An Elected Official	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/17/2021 4:19 PM
Cushman, Stephen	Weare, NH cstephen521@hotmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/17/2021 4:22 PM
Healey, Barbara	Barbara3821@aol.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/10/2021 10:25 AM
Fordey, Nicole	nikkif610@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/13/2021 8:20 PM
White, Melissa	marino_melissa@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2021 1:23 PM
Trexler, Larisa	trexlers@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2021 8:35 PM
Trexler, Ryan	mollysurvival@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2021 8:38 PM
Mason, Angela	acmbogue@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2021 8:53 AM
Libby, Heather	hmwilson04@aol.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2021 8:53 AM
Lail, Nicole	nlail@icloud.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2021 9:18 AM
Kelley, Rochelle	rochellerkelley@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2021 9:25 AM
Kelley, Samuel	Skelleypumbing@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2021 9:26 AM
Courchaine, Sarah	simplybalanced@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2021 10:33 AM
Rossal, Julie	Deut10_12@hotmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2021 10:51 AM
Rossal, Dave	Deut10_12@hotmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2021 10:53 AM
Babb, Paul	paulbabb@protonmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2021 10:28 AM
Larson, Ruth	ruthlarson@msn.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2021 11:31 AM

Moulton, Candace	candaceleighm@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/15/2021 1:59 PM
Frost, Sherry	sherry.frost@leg.state.nh.us	An Elected Official	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2021 2:38 PM
Condon, Laura	lauracondon49@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2021 3:02 PM

Rep. Homola – Q. do you know the impetus for requiring photos A. asked the sponsor, a constituent concern receiving the wrong certificate for her pet

Rep. Murray – Q. do you have any idea about the size of the photo A. she is not sure what the intent was

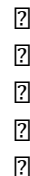
Rep. Bouldin – Q. technology, the bill is not exactly clear, but it sounds like the town clerk would have to maintain the photo and increase storage space for towns A. yes it would increase the burden

Angela Ferrari – DOGS – opposes – written testimony

Testimony

NEH <fmkaffen@ix.netcom.com>

Tue 2/16/2021 10:30 AM



To:

- ~House Environment and Agriculture Committee

4 attachments (333 KB)Download allSave all to OneDrive - The General Court of New Hampshire

Mr Chairman and Members of the House Environment and Agriculture Committee, I am writing you today in opposition to HB 322 – requiring a color photo of a dog, cat or ferret on a rabies vaccination certificate.

This bill's requirements would make rabies vaccination far more expensive than it is now and has the potential to reduce rabies vaccination compliance due to cost. It would cost veterinarians to set up to do this, requiring everything from a digital camera, a color or picture printer, inks, space and time to do the pictures etc. These costs would all be passed on to the consumer.

In addition, low income and seniors and many others who make use of rabies clinics to get their pets vaccinated would be impacted due to increased costs and the need to support color printing rather than a simple rabies certificate.

Then there is the fact this would be ineffective to identify any specific animal as so many dogs, cats, and ferrets look alike due to breed and coloration and so many more change over time.

In many coated breeds grooming and age can make a huge difference in looks. In many breeds and even mixes there are multiple individuals that look much the same (that being the whole point of purebreds that they be very similar). If any of you have ever watched a dog show breed competition ring you might have wondered how the judge told the dogs apart.

Here is an image of the same dog several months apart – about the age for first rabies vaccine and about the age for second vaccine. Not many would know this was the same dog.

Here is an image of the same two cats some months apart. The orange one stayed mostly the same. The light colored one is also the dark colored one in the second picture. He happens to carry the Siamese gene, though he was a barn cat of unknown background, which caused him to darken as he aged. How many would guess this is the same cat?

The color pictures requested in HB322 would be a costly and impractical addition to the rabies certificates. Please vote to ITL this bill.

Sincerely,

Nancy E. Holmes

New Boston, NH

PS In case the images do not show in the email I will also add them as attachments.



House Environment and Agriculture Committee
New Hampshire House of Representatives
107 North Main Street
Concord, New Hampshire 03301

Dear Committee Members,

We represent Banfield Pet Hospitals and Veterinary Clinics of America (VCA), with about a dozen clinics throughout New Hampshire, as well as Zoetis and others in the animal health profession. We thank the committee for the opportunity to comment on HB387 and HB322.

Regarding HB387, while we appreciate the focus on controlling rabies, we feel the requirement that every owner have a rabies antibody test on their dog 30 days post initial vaccination is an unnecessary cost for owners.

Rabies vaccinations have proven to be effective for decades. No state in the country requires antibody tests to be performed post vaccination. They are expensive for a lot of owners, and again, just unnecessary. In general, we encourage pet ownership and do not want to see undue burdens that could result in current owners abandoning their pets or prevent prospective owners from adopting new pets. As such, we are opposed to HB387.

We have less of a concern about HB322, but it would increase the costs on clinics and photos are not a reliable way to identify animals. From a personal perspective, I have two black Labradors. No one other than me could tell them apart in a photo and even I would need a good photo. The inclusion of a photo is going to have little benefit and the costs on the clinic include color printers, toner, a camera or smartphone (or asking staff to use personal smartphones), along with the additional time to take photos, upload them, and incorporate them into vaccination certificates. To use a common adage, the juice is not worth the squeeze.

Microchipping is the best way to identify our pets and help them get back to their families. While we don't want to recommend additional costs on the pet community, we do encourage microchipping and would note that a lot of states are considering requiring microchipping, in general, or at least for animals adopted out of rescues and shelters. Pet owners would be better off spending money on microchipping than antibody tests and then we would have a reliable way to identify our pets, which may end up helping them be reunited with their family, to which I can personally attest to, as well.

Thank you again for the opportunity to comment on these two bills. Please don't hesitate to contact us if there are any questions. We appreciate the committee's time and effort and stay safe.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Scott Young", is written over a light gray rectangular background. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end.

Scott Young

Director, Legislative and Regulatory Affairs

(202) 744-5190

scott@animalpolicygroup.com

Archived: Wednesday, July 21, 2021 10:15:21 AM

From: [George Cook](#)

Sent: Monday, February 15, 2021 9:48:32 PM

To: ~[House Environment and Agriculture Committee](#)

Subject: NH House Remote Testify: 11:00 am - HB322 in House Environment and Agriculture

Importance: Normal

I am writing in opposition to HB 322. I am sorry that due to my schedule I am unable to attend the hearing virtually, so some of my comments/objections may have been handled by the bill sponsor in his opening remarks.

The new requirements imposed by this bill do not provide any additional useable information to the rabies certificate and will impose an additional unfunded burden on all of the veterinarians in the State of NH. Due to the fact that dogs in particular, cats to a lesser extent, and ferrets to an even lesser extent change morphology during the year due to seasonal changes in coat density, coat color, and body weight, means that if the purpose of this bill is to provide an accurate photographic identification of the dog/cat/ferret in question, the State will be left with an inaccurate identification tool. Furthermore, this imposes an additional service on veterinarians which will be surely passed along to their clients. As the price for vaccinations increases so does the likelihood that clients will defer or avoid vaccination which is in direct opposition to the tenets of public health management. There is no provision for any standardized format for the color photograph, and so there will not be any consistency across this new state requirement. This is a recipe for disaster.

Please consider HB 322 Inexpedient to Legislate.

Regards,

George Cook

Jefferson, NH

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

use Remote Testify: 11:00 am - HB322 in House Environment and Agriculture

GC

George Cook <georgecookiv@gmail.com>

Mon 2/15/2021 9:48 PM

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To:

- ~House Environment and Agriculture Committee

I am writing in opposition to HB 322. I am sorry that due to my schedule I am unable to attend the hearing virtually, so some of my comments/objections may have been handled by the bill sponsor in his opening remarks.

The new requirements imposed by this bill do not provide any additional useable information to the rabies certificate and will impose an additional unfunded burden on all of the veterinarians in the State of NH. Due to the fact that dogs in particular, cats to a lesser extent, and ferrets to an even lesser extent change morphology during the year due to seasonal changes in coat density, coat color, and body weight, means that if the purpose of this bill is to provide an accurate photographic identification of the dog/cat/ferret in question, the State will be left with an inaccurate identification tool. Furthermore, this imposes an additional service on veterinarians which will be surely passed along to their clients. As the price for vaccinations increases so does the likelihood that clients will defer or avoid vaccination which is in direct opposition to the tenets of public health management. There is no provision for any standardized format for the color photograph, and so there will not be any consistency across this new state requirement. This is a recipe for disaster.


Please consider HB 322 Inexpedient to Legislate.

Regards,

George Cook

Jefferson, NH

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

Archived: Wednesday, July 21, 2021 10:15:21 AM
From: [Angela Ferrari](#)
Sent: Tuesday, February 16, 2021 8:09:27 PM
To: ~House Environment and Agriculture Committee
Subject: D.O.G.S. Opposes HB 322
Importance: Normal
Attachments:
[DOGS Oppose HB322.pdf](#) 

Attach to permanent record for this bill

Dear House E&A,

Attached please find the letter of **opposition** from Dog Owners of the Granite State on **HB 322**, *requiring a color photo of a dog, cat, or ferret on a rabies vaccination certificate.*

Sincerely,
Angela

--

Angela Ferrari
www.allettaredobermans.com

AKC Breeder of Merit
President, Dog Owners of the Granite State (D.O.G.S.)
Souhegan Kennel Club Treasurer
Pilgrim Doberman Pinscher Club Treasurer & Corresponding Secretary
Doberman Pinscher Club of America Supporting Member
National Beagle Club Supporting Member



Archived: Wednesday, July 21, 2021 10:15:21 AM
From: Crawford, Stephen
Sent: Wednesday, February 17, 2021 8:41:51 AM
To: ~House Environment and Agriculture Committee
Cc: Jasper, Shawn; Harvey, Nathan
Subject: HB 322 and HB 585
Importance: Normal

Good morning, Environment and Agriculture Committee –

I have a Board of Veterinary Medicine meeting today and will not be able to attend your hearings, but the department wants to share some thoughts about HB 585, *allowing the prepayment of dog licensing fees for the duration of a rabies vaccination and reducing fines related thereto*, and HB 322, *requiring a color photo of a dog, cat, or ferret on a rabies vaccination certificate*.

- **HB 322** – The department has nothing to do with rabies certificate management, so this would not have any direct effect on us. The department applauds the concept of expanding the use of electronic records to document animal health, where possible, but there appear to be a few substantial questions about how this proposal would be implemented...
 - Only town clerks would know, but presumably most rabies certificates (tens to hundreds of thousands) are currently in hard copy (in fact, LSR language still says “in triplicate”). Would a printed color photo needs to be attached to each copy?
 - Would there be legal standards for the photograph – for example, head only; frontal photo; full body; both sides; all of the above? Would the photo be taken and submitted to the Town Clerk by the veterinarian or the owner? Currently, statute requires the veterinarian to submit the rabies vaccination certificate.
- **HB 585**. The department has identified some potential unintended and catastrophic consequences for the state’s Animal Population Control Program (spay-neuter program) established in statute, RSA 437-A.
 - The bill explicitly retains funding for the New Hampshire Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory at the current level per licensed year. This is important and appreciated.
 - RSA 466:4 is the section of current statute that requires funding of the state Animal Population Control Program (APCP). The bill does not mention the APCP nor does it modify the sections of statute where APCP is referenced.
 - The bill appears to keep APCP funding at \$2 *per license* rather than \$2 *per licensed year*. This would result in a large reduction in the APCP budget. In the worst case, it would result in funding the APCP only every third year when all licenses renewed. The APCP could be at risk of folding from lack of consistent, predictable funding.
 - APCP has an average annual budget of approximately \$400,000, funded by license fees; there has been one occasional private donor in the past several years.
 - If the APCP funding and operation were to suffer, it should be assumed that this would result in public health and safety concerns, as well as increased local animal control costs. Specifically, the International City/County Management Association (ICMA) conducted research to document the cost savings to and impacts on local government attributable to the APCP. The savings estimated by that research have surely increased since research was completed, because the cost of services has increased while the cost of dog licensing has remained level. The ICMA research showed that for each \$1 spent by NH APCP, locals save \$3.23 in attendant

expenses (animal control, impounding, bites, etc.); http://www.spayusa.org/main_directory/03-programs_and_clinics/statewide_publicly_funded/study_three_state_programs.pdf; pg 29-30.


- APCP receives in excess of 5000 requests for applications from pet owners annually; approximately 3000 APCP surgeries are performed annually by participating veterinarians. Assume research is accurate in identifying that low income owners, such as those that use APCP, will not spay/neuter their pet without such program assistance.

I am available to answer questions from the committee should you have any.

Thank you for your consideration.

Steve Crawford

Stephen K. Crawford, DVM
New Hampshire State Veterinarian
25 Capitol Street
Concord, NH 03301
603-271-2404

Archived: Thursday, April 15, 2021 10:39:51 AM
From: [Scott Young](#)
Sent: Tuesday, February 16, 2021 11:28:27 AM
To: ~[House Environment and Agriculture Committee](#)
Subject: FW: Comments on HB387 and HB322
Importance: Normal
Attachments:
[New Hampshire HB387 and HB322.pdf](#) 

Environment and Agriculture Committee,

Please accept the attached comments on HB387 and HB322 in advance of tomorrow's hearing. Please let us know if you have any questions. Thank you very much.

Scott Young
Director, Legislative and Regulatory Affairs
[Animal Policy Group](#) (APG)

Archived: Thursday, April 15, 2021 10:39:51 AM

From: [NEH](#)

Sent: Tuesday, February 16, 2021 10:30:03 AM

To: [~House Environment and Agriculture Committee](#)

Subject: Opposition to HB322

Importance: Normal

Attachments:

Minniebaby.jpg ;minnie.jpg ;callilynovember.jpg ;cal2.jpg ;

Mr Chairman and Members of the House Environment and Agriculture Committee,

I am writing you today in opposition to HB 322 – requiring a color photo of a dog, cat or ferret on a rabies vaccination certificate.

This bill's requirements would make rabies vaccination far more expensive than it is now and has the potential to reduce rabies vaccination compliance due to cost. It would cost veterinarians to set up to do this, requiring everything from a digital camera, a color or picture printer, inks, space and time to do the pictures etc. These costs would all be passed on to the consumer.

In addition, low income and seniors and many others who make use of rabies clinics to get their pets vaccinated would be impacted due to increased costs and the need to support color printing rather than a simple rabies certificate.

Then there is the fact this would be ineffective to identify any specific animal as so many dogs, cats, and ferrets look alike due to breed and coloration and so many more change over time.

In many coated breeds grooming and age can make a huge difference in looks. In many breeds and even mixes there are multiple individuals that look much the same (that being the whole point of purebreds that they be very similar). If any of you have ever watched a dog show breed competition ring you might have wondered how the judge told the dogs apart.

Here is an image of the same dog several months apart – about the age for first rabies vaccine and about the age for second vaccine. Not many would know this was the same dog.



Here is an image of the same two cats some months apart. The orange one stayed mostly the same. The light colored one is also the dark colored one in the second picture. He happens to carry the Siamese gene, though he was a barn cat of unknown background, which caused him to darken as he aged. How many would guess this is the same cat?



The color pictures requested in HB322 would be a costly and impractical addition to the rabies certificates. Please vote to ITL this bill.

Sincerely,

Nancy E. Holmes

New Boston, NH

PS In case the images do not show in the email I will also add them as attachments.

Archived: Thursday, April 15, 2021 10:39:51 AM

From: [George Cook](#)

Sent: Monday, February 15, 2021 9:48:32 PM

To: ~[House Environment and Agriculture Committee](#)

Subject: NH House Remote Testify: 11:00 am - HB322 in House Environment and Agriculture

Importance: Normal

I am writing in opposition to HB 322. I am sorry that due to my schedule I am unable to attend the hearing virtually, so some of my comments/objections may have been handled by the bill sponsor in his opening remarks.

The new requirements imposed by this bill do not provide any additional useable information to the rabies certificate and will impose an additional unfunded burden on all of the veterinarians in the State of NH. Due to the fact that dogs in particular, cats to a lesser extent, and ferrets to an even lesser extent change morphology during the year due to seasonal changes in coat density, coat color, and body weight, means that if the purpose of this bill is to provide an accurate photographic identification of the dog/cat/ferret in question, the State will be left with an inaccurate identification tool. Furthermore, this imposes an additional service on veterinarians which will be surely passed along to their clients. As the price for vaccinations increases so does the likelihood that clients will defer or avoid vaccination which is in direct opposition to the tenets of public health management. There is no provision for any standardized format for the color photograph, and so there will not be any consistency across this new state requirement. This is a recipe for disaster.

Please consider HB 322 Inexpedient to Legislate.

Regards,

George Cook

Jefferson, NH

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

Bill as
Introduced

HB 322 - AS INTRODUCED

2021 SESSION

21-0350

08/04

HOUSE BILL **322**

AN ACT requiring a color photo of a dog, cat, or ferret on a rabies vaccination certificate.

SPONSORS: Rep. Testerman, Merr. 2

COMMITTEE: Environment and Agriculture

ANALYSIS

This bill requires a color photo of a dog, cat, or ferret to be attached to its rabies vaccination certificate.

Explanation: Matter added to current law appears in ***bold italics***.
Matter removed from current law appears ~~[in brackets and struckthrough.]~~
Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

In the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand Twenty One

AN ACT requiring a color photo of a dog, cat, or ferret on a rabies vaccination certificate.

Be it Enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court convened:

1 1 Rabies Vaccination Certificate; Color Photo Added. Amend RSA 436:102 to read as follows:
2 436:102 Duties of Veterinarian. It shall be the duty of each veterinarian, at the time of
3 vaccinating any dog, cat, or ferret, to complete a certificate of rabies vaccination in triplicate which
4 includes the following information: owner's name and address, description of dog, cat, or ferret
5 (breed, sex, markings, age, name), ***a color photograph of the dog, cat, or ferret***, date of
6 vaccination, rabies vaccination tag number, type of rabies vaccine administered, manufacturer's
7 serial number of vaccine, and the expiration date of the vaccination. Distribution of copies of the
8 certificate shall be: the original to the owner, one copy retained by the issuing veterinarian and,
9 within 40 days of the vaccination, one copy to the town or city clerk where the dog, cat, or ferret is
10 kept. The veterinarian and the owner shall retain their copies for the interval between vaccinations
11 specified in RSA 436:100. A metal or durable plastic tag, serially numbered, shall be securely
12 attached to the collar or harness of the dog. Whenever the dog is out-of-doors, off the owner's
13 premises, and not under the control of the owner or handler while working the dog, the collar or
14 harness with the vaccination tag shall be worn. For the purposes of this section, "working the dog"
15 means a dog doing a defined functional canine activity with its owner or handler such as hunting,
16 field work, drafting, and guarding, working, or herding livestock, as defined in RSA 21:34-a, II(a)(4),
17 or participating in any lawful competitive event, including, but not limited to, conformation shows or
18 obedience trials, field trials, agility events, hunts, sled races, or training activities pertinent to
19 functional canine activities. Cats and ferrets shall not be required to wear the collar or harness with
20 the tag.

21 2 Effective Date. This act shall take effect 60 days after its passage.