

HOUSE BILL No. 5015

July 8, 1997, Introduced by Reps. DeHart, Curtis, Bogardus and Schermesser and referred to the Committee on Health Policy.

A bill to amend 1994 PA 358, entitled

"An act to regulate the possession of ferrets; to provide for the licensing of ferrets; to provide for requirements for importation and rabies control procedures for ferrets; to provide for the powers and duties of certain governmental entities; to prescribe penalties and provide remedies; and to repeal acts and parts of acts,"

by amending section 2 (MCL 287.892).

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

1 Sec. 2. (1) A person shall not own or harbor a ferret over
2 12 weeks of age unless the ferret has a current vaccination
3 against rabies with an approved rabies vaccine administered by a
4 veterinarian, except that rabies vaccinations are not required
5 for research ferrets kept at research facilities registered pur-
6 suant to the public health code, ~~Act No. 368 of the Public Acts~~
7 ~~of 1978, being sections 333.1101 to 333.25211 of the Michigan~~
8 ~~Compiled Laws~~ 1978 PA 368, MCL 333.1101 TO 333.25211.

1 (2) A person who owns or harbors a ferret that has bitten,
2 scratched, caused abrasions or contaminated with saliva or other
3 infectious material an open wound or mucous membrane of a human
4 being shall report the incident within 48 hours to the county
5 ~~public~~ health department.

6 (3) ~~A person who owns or harbors~~ IF a ferret ~~that~~ has
7 potentially exposed a person or other animal to rabies by biting,
8 scratching, causing abrasions, or contaminating open wounds or
9 mucous membranes with saliva or other infectious material, THE
10 COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT shall handle the ferret in accordance
11 with current published guidelines of the centers ~~of~~ FOR disease
12 control and prevention. THE DEPARTMENT SHALL PROVIDE A COPY OF
13 THE CURRENT GUIDELINES TO EACH COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

14 (4) A person who owns or harbors a ferret shall produce
15 proof of a valid rabies certificate signed by a veterinarian for
16 the ferret upon request of a law enforcement agent or animal con-
17 trol officer or the director.