

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 1780

Introduced by Assembly Member Maienschein
(Coauthor: Senator Wilk)

January 4, 2018

An act to add Chapter 1.3 (commencing with Section 121715) to Part 6 of Division 105 of the Health and Safety Code, relating to public health.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1780, as introduced, Maienschein. Importation of diseased dogs and cats.

Existing law requires a person seeking to import a dog into this state for the purpose of resale or a change of ownership to obtain a health certificate for the dog that has been completed by a licensed veterinarian and is dated within 10 days prior to the date on which the dog is brought into the state. Existing law prohibits a breeder from knowingly selling a diseased dog.

This bill would require the State Public Health Officer to investigate certain reports of outbreaks of communicable diseases caused by, or purported to be caused by, contact with a dog or cat to determine, among other things, the probable impacts of the communicable disease on the state. The bill would authorize the officer, upon investigation and specific findings, to issue an order to prohibit the importation of dogs or cats that could pose a risk of an outbreak of any communicable disease that is dangerous to animals or individuals, as specified. The bill would impose a civil penalty for a violation of an order issued pursuant to these provisions.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Chapter 1.3 (commencing with Section 121715)
2 is added to Part 6 of Division 105 of the Health and Safety Code,
3 to read:

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5 CHAPTER 1.3. IMPORTATION OF DISEASED DOGS AND CATS
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7 121715. The State Public Health Officer shall investigate, or
8 cause an investigation to be made of, any report of an outbreak of
9 a communicable disease caused by, or purported to be caused by,
10 contact with a dog or cat issued by a reliable and verifiable public
11 source, including, but not limited to, the federal National Notifiable
12 Diseases Surveillance System, to determine the extent, source, and
13 location of the communicable disease and the probable impacts of
14 the communicable disease on the state.

15 121715.5. (a) If upon investigation the State Public Health
16 Officer finds that the importation of dogs or cats into this state
17 from another state for the purpose of resale or change of ownership
18 could pose a risk of an outbreak of any communicable disease that
19 is dangerous to animals or individuals, the State Public Health
20 Officer may issue an order to prohibit the importation of those
21 affected dogs or cats.

22 (b) The State Public Health Officer shall tailor the order to
23 reasonably prevent danger to animals or individuals caused by the
24 importation of those affected dogs or cats linked to the outbreak
25 and specify the date or conditions under which the order expires.

26 121715.10. (a) A person who violates an order issued pursuant
27 to this chapter by importing a prohibited dog or cat into this state
28 shall be subject to a civil penalty of five hundred dollars (\$500)
29 for each separate imported prohibited dog or cat.

30 (b) A violation of an order issued pursuant to this chapter shall
31 not constitute a crime.

1 (c) For purposes of this section, “person” shall mean an
2 individual, firm, partnership, corporation, association, or other
3 entity.

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