
ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 263—ASSEMBLYMAN SIBLEY (BY REQUEST)

MARCH 21, 2005

Referred to Committee on Commerce and Labor

SUMMARY—Requires licensed veterinarian to obtain informed consent from owner of animal under certain circumstances. (BDR 54-1279)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: Increases or Newly Provides for Term of Imprisonment in County or City Jail or Detention Facility.
Effect on the State: No.

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EXPLANATION – Matter in *bolded italics* is new; matter between brackets ~~fornitted-material~~ is material to be omitted.

AN ACT relating to veterinarians; requiring a licensed veterinarian to obtain informed consent in writing from the owner of an animal before administering a vaccination to, or performing a diagnostic procedure on, the animal; providing exceptions; prohibiting the licensed veterinarian from misrepresenting certain information concerning the vaccination or diagnostic procedure; providing a penalty; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, REPRESENTED IN
SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

1 **Section 1.** Chapter 638 of NRS is hereby amended by adding
2 thereto a new section to read as follows:

3 ***1. Except as otherwise provided in this section, before a***
4 ***licensed veterinarian may administer a vaccination to, or perform***
5 ***any diagnostic procedure on, an animal, the veterinarian must***
6 ***obtain the informed consent in writing from the owner of the***
7 ***animal to administer the vaccination or perform the diagnostic***
8 ***procedure. To obtain the informed consent of the owner, the***
9 ***licensed veterinarian must disclose to the owner:***



1 (a) The nature and consequences of the administration of the
2 vaccine or of the diagnostic procedure, including, without
3 limitation, if repeating a vaccination at a specific interval is
4 necessary and effective and the appropriate interval at which the
5 repeat administration of a vaccination must be made;

6 (b) The advantages and disadvantages associated with
7 administering the vaccination or performing the diagnostic
8 procedure, including, without limitation, any material risks or
9 hazards to the health of the animal associated with the vaccination
10 or diagnostic procedure;

11 (c) Any alternative courses of action that may be taken,
12 including, without limitation, administering a different vaccine or
13 performing a different diagnostic procedure, and the advantages
14 and disadvantages of the alternative course of action;

15 (d) The potential adverse side effects that may occur as a result
16 of the vaccination or diagnostic procedure and advice concerning
17 the appropriate action to take if those adverse side effects occur;
18 and

19 (e) Any other relevant information relating to the vaccination
20 or diagnostic procedure that the licensed veterinarian determines
21 is required for the owner to make an informed decision
22 concerning the vaccination or diagnostic procedure.

23 2. A licensed veterinarian is not required to obtain the
24 informed consent of the owner of an animal before administering
25 a vaccination to, or performing a diagnostic procedure on, the
26 animal if, in the professional judgment of the licensed
27 veterinarian, the animal requires immediate veterinary care to
28 avoid substantial harm or death.

29 3. A licensed veterinarian shall not misrepresent to the owner
30 of an animal:

31 (a) The necessity or benefit of a vaccination or diagnostic
32 procedure; or

33 (b) For a diagnostic procedure, the significance of the results
34 of the diagnostic procedure.

