

HB 367 - AS INTRODUCED

2021 SESSION

21-0299

08/06

HOUSE BILL

**367**

AN ACT                   relative to animal health certificates and quarantine requirements for animals imported into the state.

SPONSORS:           Rep. Pearl, Merr. 26; Rep. Lang, Belk. 4; Rep. Moffett, Merr. 9

COMMITTEE:       Environment and Agriculture

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ANALYSIS

This bill makes certain requirements for a dog, cat, or ferret to receive a health certificate, including a 7 day quarantine period for imported animals.

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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                      Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.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                      relative to animal health certificates and quarantine requirements for animals imported into the state.

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

1            1 Health Certificates. Amend RSA 437:8, I to read as follows:

2            I. For purposes of this chapter, an official health certificate means a certificate signed by a  
3 licensed veterinarian, containing the name and address of the entity transferring ownership of the  
4 dog, cat, or ferret, ***the name and address of the issuing veterinarian***, the age, gender, breed,  
5 microchip number, tattoo number, ear tag number, or physical description of the dog, cat, or ferret,  
6 and the certification of the veterinarian that the dog, cat, or ferret is free from evidence of  
7 communicable diseases or internal or external parasites. A list of all vaccines and medication  
8 administered to the dog, cat, or ferret shall be included on or attached to the certificate.

9            2 Health Certificates. Amend RSA 437:8, IV to read as follows:

10           IV. Once a dog, cat, or ferret intended for transfer has entered the state, it shall be held at  
11 least ~~[48 hours]~~ **7 days** at a facility licensed under RSA 437 or at a facility operated by a licensed  
12 veterinarian separated from ***contact with*** other ***non-quarantined*** animals on the premises ***and***  
13 ***shall receive a health certificate from a licensed veterinarian*** before being offered for transfer.

14           3 New Paragraphs; Health Certificates for Dogs, Cats, and Ferrets; Rabies Vaccinations.  
15 Amend RSA 437:8 by inserting after paragraph VI the following new paragraphs:

16           VII. No dog or cat shall be imported into New Hampshire with intent to transfer without  
17 first receiving a negative test for intestinal parasites, heartworm if the dog or cat is over 6 months of  
18 age, and proof of deworming issued by a licensed veterinarian within 14 days previous to the  
19 transfer. The commissioner of the department of agriculture, markets, and food shall adopt rules  
20 under RSA 541-A relative to what tests are sufficient for such diseases.

21           VIII. A dog, cat, or ferret 4 months old or older shall be vaccinated against rabies at least 30  
22 days before entering New Hampshire in order to receive a health certificate under this section.  
23 Puppies and kittens shall not be vaccinated against rabies before 3 months of age.

24           IX. A dog, cat, or ferret 3 months old or older shall be vaccinated against rabies at least 30  
25 days before entering New Hampshire in order to receive a health certificate under this section.  
26 Puppies and kittens shall not be vaccinated against rabies before 3 months of age. For puppies and  
27 kittens under 16 weeks old, proof that the dam's rabies vaccination is current shall be required in  
28 order to receive a health certificate.

29           4 Effective Date. This act shall take effect January 1, 2022.