
OLR Bill Analysis

sHB 6726 (as amended by House "A")*

AN ACT CONCERNING THE REGULATION OF LIVESTOCK AND CERTAIN RABBIT PROCESSING FACILITIES.

SUMMARY

This bill revises the state's livestock statutes to reflect language changes over time from the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA). It updates compensation and quarantine requirements for condemned livestock and public health responsibilities regarding reportable diseases.

Among other things, the bill generally requires livestock imported to the state to have a livestock importation permit and a certificate of veterinary inspection (i.e., health certificate). It specifies importation requirements for livestock generally and specifically for cattle, bison, sheep, goats, camelids (e.g., camels, llamas, alpacas), Cervidae (e.g., deer), and swine. The bill broadly prohibits importing an animal infected with or exposed to any infectious disease (e.g., tuberculosis, brucellosis, anaplasmosis, psoroptic scabies, chronic wasting disease, bovine spongiform encephalopathy, hog cholera, pseudorabies, rabies, or scrapie).

The bill imposes a general penalty for violating the livestock statutes and related regulations when specific penalties are not provided. Under this general penalty, a violator is subject to a \$250 fine for a first violation and a class D misdemeanor for a second (and, presumably, subsequent) violation. (Under current law, the general penalty for all violations is a class D misdemeanor, which is punishable by up to 30 days imprisonment, a fine of up to \$250, or both.)

The bill also makes other minor, technical, and conforming changes in the livestock statutes and repeals several statutes, the contents of which generally are incorporated in other sections of the bill.

Lastly, the bill amends sSB 1069 (as amended by Senate Amendment “A”) to allow, rather than require, municipal and regional animal control officers (ACOs) to inspect local dog kennels annually and upon receiving a complaint beginning July 1, 2023.

*House Amendment “A” makes the following changes to the underlying bill: (1) deletes provisions on rabbit processing facilities; (2) eliminates a requirement that owner-shipper statements be issued by the state animal health agency in the state of origin; (3) requires DoAg to surveillance test each registered milk producing herd for tuberculosis and brucellosis at a frequency the state veterinarian sets, rather than every two years; (4) allows livestock imported to the state for public auction to be examined by a licensed accredited veterinarian who can issue an interstate health certificate, rather than having to come with a health certificate; and (5) makes other technical and conforming changes. It also amends sSB 1069 (as amended by Senate Amendment “A”) to allow, rather than require, municipal and regional ACOs to inspect local dog kennels annually and upon receiving a complaint beginning July 1, 2023.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

§§ 1 & 2 — LIVESTOCK ORDERS AND REGULATIONS

Orders and Regulations

By law, the Department of Agriculture (DoAg) commissioner may issue orders or adopt regulations on importing, transporting, trailing, riding, driving, exhibiting, examining, testing, identifying, quarantining, or disposing of livestock to prevent the spread of contagious and infectious disease among the livestock and protect the public from any transmissible disease. For this and other laws on domestic animal disease, the bill additionally allows the commissioner to designate an agent, including the State Veterinarian, to do his duties. As under existing law, the bill defines “livestock” as any camelid or hooved animal raised for domestic or commercial use, but the bill further specifies that livestock is generally used to produce food or fiber and considered farm animals.

As under current law, the commissioner must give notice of orders to those named in them by leaving a copy with them or those with custody of the affected animals, if they are located in Connecticut. If those named in the order are not in Connecticut, the commissioner must send the order by registered or certified mail to the last-known address. The bill also allows the commissioner to send an order to an out-of-state person electronically if that person previously agreed to receive electronic notices.

Similarly, existing law requires the commissioner to give notice to any common carrier named in an order or affected by a regulation on livestock. Currently, notice must be given by leaving a copy with the carrier's president, secretary, or treasurer or other person at the carrier or at their last-known address. The bill allows the commissioner to give these notices through email if the carrier previously agreed to receive electronic notices.

Under current law, in the case of an emergency, the commissioner may give notice of a regulation limiting or prohibiting moving, exhibiting, or disposing of livestock on a highway by publishing it in a newspaper with a substantial circulation in the town in which the affected highway is located. The bill applies this requirement to orders, instead of regulations.

Quarantine Orders

By law, the commissioner may quarantine animals he reasonably believes have a contagious disease, do not meet DoAg requirements, or are kept in unsanitary conditions that endanger them or the public. Currently, a quarantine order may prohibit or regulate the sale of the animals and their products and require their confinement at a place the commissioner designates for as long as he deems necessary. The bill also allows quarantine orders to prohibit or regulate the movement of the animals, including dead ones (i.e., "mortalities") and their products.

Penalties

Under current law, anyone who violates an order or regulation, or obstructs or attempts to obstruct the commissioner or his agents in

carrying out their duties, is fined up to \$100 or assessed an administrative civil penalty of up to \$2,500 per violation and \$250 per day of a continuing violation. Also under current law, anyone who violates a quarantine order is fined \$500 per day of continuing violation, up to \$25,000.

The bill instead allows violators in each case to be fined up to \$500 per day, per animal, for each day the violation continues, up to \$25,000.

§ 3 — DISEASE OR BIOLOGICAL OR CHEMICAL RESIDUE TESTING

Under current law, any livestock or poultry that is tested for disease under USDA rules or a biological or chemical residue generally must be quarantined at the testing location until test results are available and signed by a veterinarian or DoAg employee who administered the test.

The bill applies this to animals being tested for disease under USDA rules or a biological or chemical residue known to be in the state. Additionally, it requires that the veterinarian involved must be licensed and accredited. Under the bill, an “accredited veterinarian” is a veterinarian approved under category II of the USDA’s National Veterinary Accreditation Program and by the state animal health official of the state that licenses the veterinarian to practice.

§ 4 — TUBERCULOSIS TESTING

Under current law, the DoAg commissioner may require neat cattle (e.g., bull or cow) and all goats to be tuberculin tested by a licensed accredited veterinarian at the state’s expense or a USDA or DoAg veterinarian. The bill instead allows the commissioner to require and provide for the testing and control of tuberculosis in any livestock at the state’s expense. Testing is restricted to the state veterinarian, veterinarians the federal government employs, and Connecticut-licensed accredited veterinarians. (Any infected livestock are subject to the condemnation provisions in § 5, described below.)

The bill requires that the testing procedures and the control and disposition of any reacting livestock (i.e., reactors) conform to one of the following:

1. for goats, cattle, bison, and captive cervids, the USDA Uniform Methods and Rules for Bovine Tuberculosis Eradication;
2. for other livestock, the procedures, methods, testing, and disposition of reactors determined by the state veterinarian; or
3. the most recent USDA approved and published procedures for tuberculosis testing and the control and disposition of tuberculosis-positive livestock.

Further, the bill specifies that the state is not liable for any damage incurred or alleged to have been incurred by any testing.

§§ 5 & 21 — CONDEMNING AND COMPENSATING FOR INFECTED LIVESTOCK

Condemnation

Under current law, the DoAg commissioner may have any domestic animal that tests positive for tuberculosis killed. However, if the animal is cattle, he cannot do so until the cattle's owner and the commissioner (or their arbitrators) determine the animal's value for purposes of the state's compensation to the owner.

The bill instead allows the commissioner to have any livestock infected with any infectious or contagious disease, including tuberculosis, anthrax, or foot and mouth disease, euthanized. The commissioner must first determine the condemned livestock's value for compensation purposes. When determining the value, the bill (1) requires him to consider the livestock's age, sex, grade, and purpose for being kept and (2) allows him to consult with livestock dealers, commission sales stables, or other sources familiar with the value of livestock.

Current law specifies how an animal that tests positive for tuberculosis must be tagged. The bill instead requires that a condemned animal must be identified with a tag, brand device, or marking that the commissioner approves. Additionally, current law prohibits a condemned animal from being killed, sold, or used for food except as the commissioner directs. The bill also prohibits a condemned animal

from being moved except as the commissioner directs.

Under current law, once an animal has been killed, the premises where the animal was kept must be disinfected within 15 days after the commissioner's order. The bill instead requires the premises to be disinfected within a time period the commissioner specifies and in a way acceptable to him before livestock are reintroduced to the premises.

Under the bill, anyone aggrieved by a commissioner's condemnation order may appeal to Hartford Superior Court within seven days after the order is issued.

Compensation

Under the bill, similar to current law, the state will compensate the owner of a condemned animal, limited to the difference between the animal's fair market value and the amount of indemnity or payment the owner received from the federal government. The state will not compensate for any livestock unless the animal has been destroyed. Additionally, the state will not pay for an animal that has no real value or that was in the state for less than three months before being quarantined, unless the animal was born into the herd in Connecticut or was imported to the state in compliance with state law.

The bill eliminates an exception in current law on compensation for animals condemned to prevent foot and mouth disease or anthrax. It also eliminates a \$2,000 limit on the appraisal amount for condemned, registered, purebred bovine animals and a \$1,100 limit for grade bovine animals.

Disposal

Under current law, cattle and goats found to be affected by a communicable disease must be killed, and the carcasses disposed of in keeping with the DoAg commissioner's order and at the owner's expense.

The bill instead requires that all carcasses of diseased livestock that are condemned pursuant to state law be disposed of in a way that is acceptable to the commissioner.

§ 6 — CONDEMNED HERD

Under current law, the DoAg commissioner has authority to condemn a cattle herd due to recurring tuberculosis or brucellosis within a two-year period or substantial infection throughout the herd. Under the bill, if the DoAg commissioner finds that (1) tuberculosis or brucellosis recurs in a livestock herd within a two-year period or (2) any livestock herd is substantially infected with tuberculosis, brucellosis, or other infectious or contagious disease, he may condemn the herd to prevent the spread of disease or protect public health. The state must pay compensation for a condemned herd as described in § 5 above.

As under current law, anyone aggrieved by a commissioner's order to condemn a herd may appeal to Superior Court within seven days after the order is issued, in accordance with the Uniform Administrative Procedure Act.

§ 7 — CARE OF HERDS

Current law requires a herd owner to house, feed, and care for the animals in sanitary conditions that promote the herd's health. The bill expands this to apply to any livestock herd to promote the herd's health and welfare. As under current law, calves may be fed milk and dairy products only from a herd that tested negative for tuberculosis or that is pasteurized at 142 degrees Fahrenheit for 30 minutes.

§ 8 — RECORDKEEPING

Current law requires a herd owner to (1) keep records describing each registered or graded animal and its final disposition and (2) mark each animal with a tag or marking the DoAg commissioner approves.

The bill instead requires the owner of a livestock herd to keep a record of each animal in the herd, including the final disposition of each. It requires the herd owner to mark each animal in the herd with official identification when the animal leaves the premises and keep the identification in the animal's record. Under the bill, "official identification" is a numbering system, approved by USDA and the state veterinarian, that (1) provides a nationally unique identification number for each animal, (2) prescribes the animal identification methods and

devices approved for use in each livestock species, and (3) is affixed to each animal by tag or other USDA-approved method. The owner must keep the record for the animal's life plus one year.

§ 9 — QUARANTINING AN INFECTED HERD

Under current law, when tuberculosis is found in a herd of cattle or goats, the entire herd must be quarantined until it passes three successive negative tests with at least 60 days between each test. Current law prohibits an animal from being removed from the herd during quarantine, except under a written permit from the DoAg commissioner for slaughtering.

The bill expands these requirements to apply to any livestock herd and any reportable disease. Specifically, it requires that when a disease that is listed as reportable or notifiable by DoAg or USDA is found in a livestock herd, the entire herd must be quarantined until a time the state veterinarian determines. Also, the bill prohibits an animal from being removed from the herd during quarantine, except under a written permit from the DoAg commissioner for the purpose and under conditions specified in the permit.

§ 10 — BRUCELLOSIS TESTING

Under current law, the DoAg commissioner may require certain cattle and goats to be tested for brucellosis by the state veterinarian, veterinarians employed by DoAg or the federal government, and veterinarians licensed in Connecticut and assigned by the DoAg commissioner for that purpose. The bill instead allows the commissioner to require and provide for the testing and control of brucellosis in any livestock in the state. The bill restricts the drawing of blood and milk samples for brucellosis testing to the state veterinarian, veterinarians and trained employees of DoAg, veterinarians the federal government employs, and Connecticut-licensed accredited veterinarians. (Any infected livestock are subject to the condemnation provisions in § 5, described above.)

The bill eliminates requirements that animals testing positive be branded with a hot iron and tagged with a metal number reactor tag.

The bill requires that the testing procedures and the control and disposition of any reactors conform to one of the following:

1. for cattle, bison, swine, or Cervidae, the USDA Uniform Methods and Rules for Brucellosis Eradication for the respective species;
2. for other livestock, the procedures, methods, testing, and disposition that the state veterinarian determines; or
3. the most recent USDA approved and published procedures for brucellosis procedures for testing and the control and disposition of brucellosis-positive livestock.

Further, as under current law, the bill specifies that the state is not liable for any damage incurred or alleged to have been incurred by any testing performed under these provisions.

§ 11 — SALE OF MILK

Under current law, no one may offer milk for sale in the state unless it is produced from herds that comply with state laws on tuberculosis and brucellosis. The bill specifies that no one may offer milk for sale in the state unless it is produced from herds complying with §§ 4 and 10 of the bill (i.e., tuberculosis and brucellosis testing).

Additionally, the bill requires, for new milk producers wanting to register with DoAg, that if the herd or any animal in the herd does not have a current negative tuberculosis and brucellosis test result, the herd must test negative before the commissioner may issue the milk producer registration. DoAg employees may do the testing. The bill requires that DoAg then surveillance test each registered milk producing herd for tuberculosis and brucellosis at a frequency the state veterinarian sets.

§ 12 — BRUCELLOSIS VACCINATION

By law, bovine (e.g., cattle and bison) owners may have their female calves vaccinated against brucellosis at their own expense and at ages set out in the USDA Uniform Methods and Rules for Brucellosis Eradication. The bill eliminates current law's requirement that the DoAg commissioner identify the ages in regulations.

The bill requires a licensed accredited veterinarian to perform the vaccinations, rather than an approved licensed veterinarian, an approved federal or state full-time employed veterinarian that the DoAg commissioner assigns and authorizes, or a livestock inspector that the commissioner employs and authorizes, as under current law.

§ 13 — IMPORTING LIVESTOCK

Importation Permit and Certificate of Veterinary Inspection

Current law generally requires neat cattle and goats brought into the state to be accompanied by a permit from the DoAg commissioner.

The bill instead requires all livestock brought into the state to be accompanied by a livestock importation permit obtained from the DoAg commissioner as well as a certificate of veterinary inspection signed by an accredited veterinarian. A livestock importation permit expires 15 days after its issuance, while a certificate of veterinary inspection is valid for 30 days after its issuance.

Under the bill, a certificate of veterinary inspection must include the following:

1. examination date;
2. the livestock's point of origin and destination;
3. the consignor's and consignee's names and mailing addresses;
4. the official identification of each animal's age, sex, breed, and species for each animal represented on the certificate;
5. results of all health tests required by Connecticut law; and
6. a statement verifying that the livestock (a) have been inspected and are free from clinical signs of any contagious, infectious, or communicable diseases and (b) do not originate from an area of quarantine, infestation, or infection.

The bill also requires the veterinarian issuing the certificate to verify, at the time of examination, that each animal represented on the

certificate has identification tags or other form of identification.

Under the bill, within 48 hours after imported livestock arrive at their destination in the state, the livestock's owner must (1) complete and return the importation permit to the commissioner and (2) report the number of each species imported. The owner must include with these a copy of the certificate of veterinary inspection that accompanied the livestock into the state.

As under current law, the commissioner may refuse to issue an importation permit to anyone who violates any statutes or regulations on importing livestock. The bill requires the commissioner, when refusing to issue or revoking an importation permit, to notify the importer of the violations and corrections needed. After making the corrections, the person may reapply for a permit.

Importing for Immediate Slaughter

Current law exempts neat cattle and goats brought into the state for immediate slaughter at federally inspected premises from needing a permit as long as they are accompanied by a bill of sale or certificate of assignment. It also requires the slaughter facility's owner to report weekly to the DoAg commissioner with the number of animals imported for slaughter.

Under the bill, livestock brought into the state are exempt from needing an importation permit and certificate of veterinary inspection if they are brought to (1) federally inspected premises for immediate slaughter, (2) a slaughter facility approved by the commissioner, or (3) a licensed livestock commission sales stable authorized by the USDA and state veterinarian. The exemption applies as long as the livestock are accompanied by an owner-shipper statement that includes the following:

1. the consignor's and consignee's names and addresses;
2. the livestock's point of origin and destination;
3. the date of entry into the state;

4. a statement that the livestock are consigned for immediate slaughter;
5. a listing of each animal's official identification, including age, sex, breed, and species; and
6. the shipper's signature certifying the animals are imported for slaughter only.

Importing for Exhibition or Competition Purposes

Under the bill, anyone transporting livestock or equines into the state for exhibition or competition purposes may obtain an exhibition permit from the DoAg commissioner before entering the state. Animals listed in the exhibition permit and on the certificate of veterinary inspection are exempt from requiring a new certificate of veterinary inspection every 30 days for the duration of the exhibition permit. An exhibition permit expires six months after its issuance.

For the duration of the exhibition permit, the bill requires that all tests required under state law to qualify for importation be listed on the certificate of veterinary inspection and kept current.

§ 14 — REFUSAL TO PERMIT IMPORTATION

Current law allows the DoAg commissioner to refuse to grant import permits for neat cattle and goats from any area that are infected with a contagious disease. It also allows him to revoke any permit for animals that, in his opinion, are infected. The bill expands his right to refuse to issue or to revoke a permit to livestock generally.

Also, the bill requires all livestock entering the state to be identified by official identification, rather than ear tags, registration name or number, tattoo, or other markings approved by the commissioner as under current law.

§§ 15-20 & 23 — IMPORTATION REQUIREMENTS BY SPECIES

Livestock Generally (§ 15)

The bill prohibits anyone from importing livestock into the state if the livestock is (1) under quarantine due to the presence, or suspected

presence, of an infectious or contagious disease and (2) infected with, or has been exposed to, any infectious or contagious disease.

The bill also prohibits anyone from importing livestock into the state unless an importation permit is obtained as required in § 13 (described above) and each animal is accompanied by a certificate of veterinary inspection from an accredited veterinarian certifying that the animals have been inspected, are not showing signs of disease, and have been tested in accordance with state law.

The bill exempts from the permit and certificate requirements any livestock imported for slaughter at a facility under a USDA grant of inspection or approved by the DoAg commissioner, as long as the livestock come with the owner-shipper statement required in § 13. The bill prohibits any livestock brought into the state for slaughter to be sold or transferred live to anyone.

Cattle and Bison (§ 16)

The bill requires that all cattle or bison imported into the state come with an importation permit as required under § 13 and a certificate of veterinary inspection issued by an accredited veterinarian within 30 days before importation. The certificate must include the dates and results of any required tests, the official identification of each animal, and a certification that the cattle or bison meet the following requirements:

1. they originated from a herd that was negative to a whole herd tuberculin test performed within 12 months before importation and each animal was included in the whole herd test or tested negative to a tuberculosis test performed within 60 days of importation and
2. for bulls and non-brucellosis vaccinated female cattle at least six months old, and for official calfhood vaccinates (i.e., those vaccinated when they were calves) at least 18 months old, that they tested negative to an official brucellosis test performed within 30 days before importation.

The bill exempts from brucellosis testing spayed heifers and steer that are imported as feeder cattle (i.e., for eventual slaughter). The bill also prohibits cattle and bison from being imported into the state if they were vaccinated (1) as adults or (2) when they were more than 359 days of age with diluted brucella abortus vaccine.

Sheep (§ 17)

The bill requires that any sheep imported into the state come with an importation permit as required under § 13 and a certificate of veterinary inspection issued by an accredited veterinarian within 30 days before importation. The certificate must include the dates and results of any required tests, the official identification of each animal, and a certification that the sheep listed on the certificate have not been exposed to scrapie.

Goats (§ 18)

The bill requires that any goat imported into the state come with an importation permit as required under § 13 and a certificate of veterinary inspection issued by an accredited veterinarian within 30 days before importation. The certificate must include the dates and results of any required tests, the official identification of each animal, and a certification that the goats listed on the certificate have not been exposed to scrapie. Each goat also must meet the following requirements:

1. they originated from a herd that was negative to a whole herd tuberculin test performed within 12 months before importation and they each were included in the test,
2. each goat more than three months old has tested negative to a tuberculosis test performed within 60 days before importation, and
3. each goat more than three months old has tested negative to a brucellosis test performed within 30 days before importation.

The bill allows a kid goat under three months old to be imported on its dam's (female parent's) test chart if the dam tested negative for brucellosis within 12 months of importation and a copy of that test result

is given to the commissioner. The bill exempts from brucellosis testing any wether (i.e., castrated male goat).

Camelids (§ 19)

The bill requires that any camelid (e.g., camels, llamas, alpacas) imported into the state come with an importation permit as required under § 13 and a certificate of veterinary inspection issued by an accredited veterinarian within 30 days before importation. The certificate must include the dates and results of any required tests and the official identification of each animal. Each camelid also must meet the following requirements:

1. have tested negative for tuberculosis using an axillary tuberculin test within 60 days before importation and
2. if at least six months old, test negative for brucellosis within 30 days before importation.

Cervidae (§ 20)

The bill requires that any Cervidae imported into the state come with an importation or exhibition permit as required under § 13 and a certificate of veterinary inspection that verifies compliance with CGS § 26-57a and any related regulations. Among other things, CGS § 26-57a sets requirements for imported reindeer, including testing negative for tuberculosis and brucellosis within 30 days before importation and coming from a herd that participated in a chronic wasting disease monitoring program.

Swine (§ 23)

The bill requires that any swine imported into the state come with an importation permit as required under § 13 and a certificate of veterinary inspection issued by an accredited veterinarian within 30 days before importation. The certificate must include the dates and results of any required tests, the official identification of each animal, and a certification that the swine came from a herd that was brucellosis validated free and pseudorabies qualified free. The certificate must also include the following:

1. the number and date of the last whole herd negative brucellosis test that included the swine being imported, or each swine over three months old must have tested negative for brucellosis within 30 days before importation, and
2. the number and date of the last whole herd negative pseudorabies test that included the swine being imported, or each swine must have tested negative for pseudorabies within 30 days before importation.

The bill exempts barrows (i.e., castrated male swine) from brucellosis testing.

§ 22 — DISPERSAL SALE OF LIVESTOCK

Current law requires a herd owner, auctioneer, cattle dealer, or sales manager who wants to sell a herd (i.e., dispersal sale) or more than 10 head as a group to give the DoAg commissioner a list of the animals to be sold within 14 days before the sale, unless the commissioner waives this requirement as an undue hardship. Also, no one may conduct a dispersal sale without the commissioner's approval. The bill applies these requirements to livestock dealers, instead of cattle dealers, and eliminates the commissioner's ability to waive the list requirement.

Under current law, the commissioner may require the herd to be tested for tuberculosis, brucellosis, or both before a sale. The bill instead allows the state veterinarian to require the herd to be tested for any diseases as she determines necessary. The herd's owner must pay for any required tests. If the herd tests negative, the commissioner must give permission for the sale.

Current law imposes a fine of up to \$100 on anyone who violates these sale provisions. The bill eliminates this specific penalty, meaning the statutory general penalty applies instead (see § 25 below).

§ 23 — REQUIREMENTS FOR BREEDING SWINE

The bill requires anyone who breeds swine to have all breeding swine tested for brucellosis and pseudorabies by an accredited veterinarian, USDA- or DoAg-employed veterinarian, or a DoAg employee under the

state veterinarian's supervision. The animals' owner must help restrain the animals during the testing.

The bill specifies that the state is not liable for any damages incurred or alleged to have been incurred from the testing. Also, it requires that the (1) brucellosis testing comply with § 10 of the bill and (2) pseudorabies testing procedures and control and disposition of positive swine conform to USDA Pseudorabies Eradication Program standards.

§ 25 — PENALTIES

The bill changes the general penalty for (1) violating the livestock statutes and related regulations or (2) obstructing the DoAg commissioner or his agents when performing their official duties. The general penalty applies when specific penalties are not otherwise provided. Under the general penalty, a violator is subject to a \$250 fine for a first violation and a class D misdemeanor for a second (and, presumably, each subsequent) violation. (Under current law, the general penalty for all violations is a class D misdemeanor, which is punishable by up to 30 days imprisonment, a fine of up to \$250, or both.)

The bill also imposes a penalty for misleading or attempting to mislead the commissioner by removing or altering a livestock's official identification or falsifying a certificate of veterinary inspection. A violator is subject to a \$250 fine for a first violation and a class D misdemeanor for a second or subsequent violation.

§ 26 — NOTIFIABLE OR REPORTABLE DISEASE REPORTING

The bill requires laboratories and veterinarians that do testing on livestock or poultry to notify the state veterinarian of any positive test results for notifiable or reportable diseases. (By law, the state veterinarian must provide a list of these diseases annually (CGS § 22-26f).) A notification must be made (1) within 24 hours after getting the test results and (2) as the DoAg commissioner prescribes.

Under the bill, anyone who violates this requirement is subject to an administrative civil penalty of up to \$500 for a first violation and up to \$1,000 for a second or subsequent violation.

§ 27 — COMMISSION SALES STABLES

By law, those who sell livestock at public auctions (i.e., commission sales stable licensees) must abide by certain statutory requirements. Currently, dairy and breeding animals coming from outside the state for auction must arrive with a health certificate from their state of origin and a DoAg-issued importation permit. The bill allows, as an alternative, the animals to be examined by a licensed accredited veterinarian who will issue interstate health certificates at the licensee's expense.

§ 28 — REPEALED STATUTES

The bill repeals the following statutes, the contents of which are mostly incorporated in other sections of the bill:

1. CGS § 22-284, on handling outbreaks of the contagious disease anthrax or charbon;
2. CGS § 22-304, on controlling disease in imported cattle;
3. CGS § 22-318, on importing feeder cattle;
4. CGS § 22-318b, on allowing DoAg, upon a herd owner's request, to issue interstate health charts for a fee for livestock to be sold (the bill does not incorporate this provision);
5. CGS §§ 22-291 to 22-293, on tuberculosis-free accredited herds and livestock sale and purchase reports; and
6. CGS §§ 22-310 to 22-313, on requirements for certain cattle and goats.

§ 29 — INSPECTIONS OF LOCAL DOG KENNELS

sSB 1069, as amended by Senate Amendment "A," requires municipal and regional animal control officers (ACOs) to inspect local dog kennels annually and upon receipt of a complaint. This bill instead allows, rather than requires, the ACOs to do these inspections beginning July 1, 2023.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Environment Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 26 Nay 7 (03/10/2023)

Judiciary Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 36 Nay 0 (04/19/2023)