



Arkansas Department of Health

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Governor Sarah Huckabee Sanders

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PROPOSED REVISIONS TO THE RULES PERTAINING TO RABIES CONTROL

PURPOSE

The Arkansas Department of Health (Department) proposing amendments to the Rules Pertaining to Rabies Control.

BACKGROUND

The Rules Pertaining to Rabies Control provide for the prevention and control of rabies and to protect the public health, welfare, and safety of the citizens of Arkansas.

KEY POINTS

These changes were required to reflect amendments made to the Rabies Control Act (Ark. Code Ann. §§ 20-19-301-312) during the 2023 legislative session in accordance with Acts 161 and 522, which allows persons in addition to licensed veterinarians to administer rabies vaccinations and allows for home quarantines of vaccinated dogs and cats, respectively.

DISCUSSION

It is proposed to modify the Rules Pertaining to Rabies Control as follows:

1. Removed “regulations” throughout Rule to comply with Act 315 of 2019.
2. Section II - Revised definition of “cat” to comply with Rabies Control Act, Ark. Code §20-19-302.
3. Section II - Moved to alphabetize and revised definition of “dog” to comply with Rabies Control Act, Ark. Code §20-19-302.
4. Section II - Moved “has been bitten” to alphabetize definitions.
5. Section II – Revised “vaccination against rabies” pursuant to Act 161 of 2023.
6. Section II – Revised “Confinement, quarantine, and observation” pursuant to Act 522 of 2023.
7. Section IV(B)(2) – Revised pursuant to Act 522 of 2023, to comply with Ark. Code § 20-19-307(a)(1)(A).

8. Section IX – Corrected position title from “Zoonotic Disease Section Chief” to “Arkansas State Public Health Veterinarian”
9. Section X – Corrected position title from “State Health Director” to “Director of Department of Health.”