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Deputy to the Chairperson

State of Hawaii  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
1428 South King Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96814-2512  
Phone: (808) 973-9600 FAX: (808) 973-9613

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TO: All Hawaii Licensed Veterinarians

FROM: Raquel Wong, DVM   
Administrator, Animal Industry Division

SUBJECT: Amendments to Chapter 4-29, Hawaii Administrative Rules, Regarding Rabies Quarantine

Rule amendments to Chapter 4-29, HAR recently received final approval from the Governor and will become effective on August 31, 2018. A summary of the more significant changes follows. The complete Chapter 4-29, HAR with amendments is located on the Hawaii Department of Agriculture's website at: <http://hdoa.hawaii.gov/> under the Administrative Rules tab. The Animal Quarantine information page (access by clicking on the Animal Quarantine tab) has been updated and new checklists added to assist with preparing a dog or cat for the 5 Day or Less program and Direct Airport Release.

Exact Changes Made.

A. Section 4-29-2 Definitions

The definition "Service Animal" is added and the definitions of "Service Dog" and "User" are amended to reflect the definition of service animals under current Federal ADA language.

The definition "Eligibility Date" or "Eligible Date" is added for clarification of terminology and means the date determined by the State that an animal may qualify for five day or less quarantine by meeting all the specified requirements.

"Qualification date" is added for clarification and means the date determined by the state that an animal may be released from quarantine by meeting all the specified requirements under Chapter 4-29, HAR.

The definition "Safeguard" is added and means to confine and handle animals so that the animals shall not come into physical contact with any other animal, or cause a potential human exposure, at any time. The location and method of confinement and handling shall be approved by the state.

"Veterinary Hospital" is added for clarification and means an office or building designated for the sole purpose of providing veterinary examinations, diagnostics, and medical and surgical treatments of animals operated by a veterinarian licensed to practice in Hawaii.



- B. Section 4-29-8.1 Other requirements Changes are made to: Reduce the minimum time required from the most recently administered rabies vaccine before arrival in Hawaii from 90 days to 30 days;

Modify the minimum time required from a successful OIE-RVA test by reducing the period from the test before arrival in Hawaii from 120 to 30 days; and

Another amendment is added that owners are required to register their pet's microchip number with the local county humane society or local animal welfare organization. Other changes are made throughout the section for clarification.

- C. Section 4-29-8.3 Movement of dogs and cats requiring urgent diagnostic, medical or surgical procedures not available in Hawaii

A new subsection (b) is made to establish requirements for the importation of cloned animals derived from donor tissue originating in Hawaii into the state without quarantine. This provision allows application of advances in science and technology to qualify as a low risk category for import. Requirements for the cloning facility, veterinary management, brood stock, clone animal preparation, transportation and procedures are included.

- J. Section 4-29-11 State animal quarantine station

Changes add that admission to the station may be denied to anyone that is not listed as an owner, co-owner, registered handler or authorized visitor on the record of an animal quarantined in the quarantine station. This change will increase biosecurity and minimize the potential of introducing diseases into the station.

An amendment is added to clarify that station veterinarians are authorized to refer an animal to a veterinary facility for diagnostics and treatment not available at the Station with or without prior owner authorization or approval. This is for situations when owners are not available and/or referral is in the best interest of the animal.

- K. Section 4-29-17 Fees at the animal quarantine station.

Changes are made to fees for Five-day or less quarantine, Direct airport release, Neighbor Island Inspection Permit (NIIP) and Re-entry fee with direct airport release and ground transportation on Oahu are made. The total new fees for Five-day or less quarantine being \$244 (currently \$224); Direct airport release total fee of \$185 (currently \$165); NIIP fee of \$165 (currently \$145), and Reentry fee with direct airport release of \$98 (currently \$78).

- L. Throughout Chapter 4-29, HAR, the term "service dog" is changed to "service animal" to reflect current Federal ADA language.