

Historic, archived document

Do not assume content reflects current scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.

89TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 13406

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 8, 1966

Mr. NELSEN introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Agriculture

A BILL

To authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to regulate the transportation, purchase, sale, and handling of dogs and cats in commerce.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*
3 That, in order to protect the owners of dogs and cats from
4 theft of such pets and to prevent the sale or use of stolen dogs
5 and cats, it is essential to regulate the transportation, pur-
6 chase, sale, or handling of dogs and cats.

7 SEC. 2. When used in this Act—

8 (a) The term "person" includes any individual,
9 partnership, association, or corporation.

1 (b) The term "Secretary" means the Secretary of
2 Agriculture.

3 (c) The term "commerce" means commerce be-
4 tween any State, territory, or possession, or the District
5 of Columbia, or Puerto Rico, and any place outside
6 thereof; or within any territory or possession or the Dis-
7 trict of Columbia.

8 (d) The term "dog" means any live dog of the
9 species (*Canis familiaris*).

10 (e) The term "cat" means any live domestic cat
11 (*Felis catus*).

12 (f) The term "dealer" means any person who for
13 profit, transports or buys and sells dogs and cats in com-
14 merce. Transport excludes common carriers otherwise
15 regulated.

16 SEC. 3. The Secretary shall promulgate humane stand-
17 ards to govern the handling and transportation of dogs and
18 cats by dealers.

19 SEC. 4. The Secretary is hereby authorized and directed
20 to issue licenses to dealers upon application therefor in such
21 form and manner as prescribed by the Secretary and upon
22 payment of the fee prescribed by the Secretary.

23 SEC. 5. All dogs and cats transported or purchased and
24 sold in commerce by any dealer shall be marked or identified,
25 in such humane manner as the Secretary may prescribe.

1 SEC. 6. Dealers shall make and keep for a reasonable
2 time as determined by the Secretary such records with re-
3 spect to their purchase, sale, and transportation of dogs and
4 cats as the Secretary may prescribe upon forms supplied by
5 the Secretary and appropriate copies be returned to the Sec-
6 retary. Such records shall be made available at all reason-
7 able times to inspection by the Secretary or any person duly
8 employed by him.

9 SEC. 7. The Secretary is authorized to cooperate with
10 the officials of the various States or political subdivisions
11 thereof in effectuating the purposes of this Act and of any
12 State, local, or municipal legislation or ordinance on the same
13 subject.

14 SEC. 8. The Secretary is authorized to promulgate such
15 rules, regulations, and orders as he may deem necessary to
16 effectuate the purposes of this Act.

17 SEC. 9. Any dealer who operates without a license from
18 the Secretary issued pursuant to this Act or while such
19 license is suspended or revoked, or who fails to obey a cease-
20 and-desist order made by the Secretary under the provisions
21 of this Act shall forfeit to the United States the sum of \$500
22 for each offense.

23 SEC. 10. In order to finance the administration of this
24 Act, the Secretary shall charge, assess, and cause to be col-
25 lected license fees not to exceed \$50 per year. All such

1 fees shall be deposited in a fund which shall be available
 2 without fiscal year limitation for use in administering the
 3 provisions of this Act together with such funds as may be
 4 appropriated thereto and there is hereby authorized to be
 5 appropriated such funds as Congress may from time to time
 6 provide.

7 **SEC. 11.** This Act shall take effect one hundred and
 8 eighty days after enactment.

A BILL

To authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to regulate the transportation, purchase, sale, and handling of dogs and cats in commerce.

By Mr. NELSEN

MARCH 8, 1966

Referred to the Committee on Agriculture