

26:4-86

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY CHECKLIST

NJSA: 26:4-86

(Animals--  
potential rabies  
carries--tesing)

LAWS OF: 1989

CHAPTER: 297

Bill No: S2811

Sponsor(s): Bassano

Date Introduced: August 8, 1988

Committee: Assembly: Natural Resources

Senate: Insitutions, Health & Institutions

Amended during passage: No

Date of Passage: Assembly: January 8, 1990

Senate: January 12, 1990

Date of Approval:

Following statements are attached if available:

Sponsor statement: Yes

Committee Statement: Assembly: Yes

Senate: Yes

Fiscal Note: No

Veto Message: No

Message on signing: No

Following were printed:

Reports: No

Hearings: No

1 AN ACT concerning the examination of animals by local boards  
2 of health and amending R.S.26:4-86.

3  
4 BE IT ENACTED by the Senate and General Assembly of the  
5 State of New Jersey:

6 1. R.S.26:4-86 is amended to read as follows:

7 26:4-86. The local board or the duly authorized agent of such  
8 board, within its jurisdiction, shall be permitted by the owner or  
9 person in charge of a dog, cat or other animal which has attacked  
10 or bitten a person, to examine the animal at any time, and daily  
11 if desired, within a period of ten days after the animal has  
12 attacked or bitten a person, to determine whether the animal  
13 shows symptoms of rabies.

14 If the animal dies within the ten day confinement period or if  
15 the owner or person in charge of the animal elects to destroy the  
16 animal at any time during the confinement period, the local board  
17 may order a laboratory examination for rabies be performed.

18 No person shall refuse, obstruct, or interfere with the local  
19 board in making [the] any examination authorized pursuant to this  
20 section.

21 (cf: R.S.26:4-86)

22 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

23  
24  
25 STATEMENT

26  
27 This bill would permit a local board of health to require a  
28 laboratory examination for rabies of an animal that dies, or is  
29 electively destroyed, during the confinement period following a  
30 biting incident. This laboratory examination is important in order  
31 to confirm the presence of rabies. Confirmation allows for the  
32 immediate initiation of treatment for humans exposed to the  
33 rabid animal.

EXPLANATION—Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the  
above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

SENATE, No. 2811  
STATE OF NEW JERSEY

INTRODUCED AUGUST 8, 1988

By Senator BASSANO

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STATEMENT

27 This bill would permit a local board of health to require a  
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ASSEMBLY CONSERVATION, NATURAL RESOURCES  
AND ENERGY COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

SENATE, No. 2811

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: DECEMBER 7, 1989

The Assembly Conservation, Natural Resources and Energy Committee favorably reports Senate Bill No. 2811.

This bill would permit a local board of health to require performance of a laboratory examination for rabies for an animal that dies, or is electively destroyed, during the 10-day confinement period following a biting incident. This laboratory examination is important to confirm the presence or absence of rabies, a fatal disease, allowing for immediate treatment of humans exposed to the rabid animal.

Currently, an animal that has been critically injured during or following a biting incident may have to be humanely destroyed. The 10-day confinement period is not applicable in this case. While in practice, permission to test a dead animal for rabies is usually given by the animal's owner, this bill would explicitly give discretionary authority to local boards of health to require the laboratory examination.

SENATE INSTITUTIONS, HEALTH AND WELFARE COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

SENATE, No. 2811

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: DECEMBER 1, 1988

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NEW JERSEY STATE LIBRARY

JAN 12 1989

107 W. State Street  
TRENTON, N. J.

The Senate Institutions, Health and Welfare Committee favorably reports Senate Bill No. 2811.

This bill would permit a local board of health to require that a laboratory examination for rabies be performed on an animal that dies, or is electively destroyed, during the confinement period following a biting incident. This laboratory examination is important in order to confirm the presence of rabies. Confirmation allows for the immediate initiation of treatment for humans exposed to the rabid animal.

Currently, an animal that has been critically injured during or following a biting incident may have to be humanely destroyed. This action nullifies the purpose of confinement. While in practice, permission for the dead animal to be tested for rabies is usually given by the animal's owner, this bill would explicitly give discretionary authority to local boards of health to require the laboratory examination of the dead animal.