

HB 1600 -- Impoundment of Animals

Sponsor: Viebrock

Currently, any neglected or abused animal may be impounded. This bill requires that a farm animal weighing more than 50 pounds not be impounded until the district state veterinarian of the Department of Agriculture has examined the animal and determined the animal to be in imminent danger of loss of life. The remainder of the farm animals are to be quarantined until the owner has been instructed to correct the animal abuse violation. If within 30 days of the issuance of the warrant, a good faith attempt to correct the condition has not been made and approved by the veterinarian during a required follow-up visit, the animals may be impounded or destroyed.

If abused or neglected farm animals in the possession of a caregiver are impounded, the authority having custody of the animals is required to make a diligent effort to notify the owner in writing that the animals are impounded.