

SB 526 -- DISEASED ANIMALS

SPONSOR: Clemens (Brown, 149)

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "do pass" by the Special Committee on Emerging Issues in Animal Agriculture by a vote of 12 to 0.

This bill specifies that any animal or bird under investigation by the State Veterinarian for carrying a toxin must not be removed from the premises until certain conditions are met. The State Veterinarian will be authorized to choose the method of eradication of the toxin and may restrict the movement of any animal or bird under investigation for the presence of a toxin. Once an investigation is completed, the animal or bird must be released from the holding period or must be permanently quarantined by the State Veterinarian or his or her representative.

FISCAL NOTE: No impact on state funds in FY 2010, FY 2011, and FY 2012.

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that the bill clarifies the State Veterinarian's authority to hold an animal until a proper diagnosis is made.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Brown (149) for Senator Clemens; Department of Agriculture; Missouri Farm Bureau; and Steve Clarkson, Missouri State Veterinary Association.

OPPOSERS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.