
DIGEST

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HB 842 Original

2022 Regular Session

McMahan

Abstract: Provides for liability immunity for veterinary professionals who report animal cruelty, neglect, or other prohibited acts towards animals.

Proposed law provides that veterinarians or veterinary technicians who report suspected animal cruelty, neglect, or other prohibited acts shall be immune from civil liability or criminal prosecution if they report in good faith and have reasonable cause.

Proposed law provides for immunity from liability if the veterinarian or veterinary technician reports such violation to the commissioner or designee of the Dept. of Agriculture and Forestry, an animal control officer, a law enforcement agency, or a prosecuting attorney. Proposed law further extends the immunity from liability to a veterinarian or veterinary technician who participates in any investigation or proceeding for acts prohibited by law as provided by proposed law.

Proposed law provides that the veterinarian or veterinary technician shall be immune from civil liability or criminal prosecution for releasing confidential information to a court, federal or state department, animal control officer, law enforcement agency, or prosecuting attorney.

Proposed law does not apply if the veterinarian or veterinary technician acts with gross negligence or in bad faith.

(Adds R.S. 9:2800.28)