

## **Importation and Interstate Movement of Animals**

### **International Importation**

CDC regulates the importation of dogs and cats into the United States. Importers of dogs must comply with rabies vaccination requirements (42 CFR, Part 71.51 [c] [<http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dq/animal.html>]) and complete CDC Form 75.37 ([http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dq/pdf/animal/dog\\_quarantine\\_notice\\_08-04-06-cdc7537.pdf](http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dq/pdf/animal/dog_quarantine_notice_08-04-06-cdc7537.pdf)). In Alabama, the State Veterinarian at the Alabama Department of Agriculture and Industries should be notified within 72 hours of the arrival of any imported dog required to be placed in confinement under the CDC regulation. Failure of the owner to comply with these confinement requirements should be promptly reported to the Division of Global Migration and Quarantine, CDC (telephone: 404-639-3441).

Federal regulations alone are insufficient to prevent the introduction of rabid animals into the United States. All imported dogs and cats are subject to state and local laws governing rabies and should be currently vaccinated against rabies in accordance with Section 3-7A-2 of the Code of Alabama 1975. Failure of the owner to comply with State or local requirements should be referred to the Alabama Department of Agriculture and Industries.

### **Interstate Transportation**

Before interstate movement (including commonwealths and territories), dogs, cats, and ferrets, should be currently vaccinated against rabies in accordance with Section 3-7A-2 of the Code of Alabama 1975. Animals in transit should be accompanied by a currently valid Alabama Rabies Vaccination Certificate. (A copy of the form is found in the Forms section of this Manual, page 39.) When an interstate health certificate or certificate of veterinary inspection is required, it should contain the same rabies vaccination information as the Alabama Rabies Vaccination Certificate.

### **Importation of Non-Domesticated Animals into Alabama**

According to the Prohibited Animal Regulation of Alabama (§220-3-.26 AL Dept. of Conservation and Natural Resources Administrative Code) no one:

“shall possess, sell, offer for sale, import, bring, or cause to be brought or imported in the State of Alabama...any member of the family *Cerevidae* (to include but not be limited to deer, elk, moose, caribou), species of coyote, species of fox, species of raccoon, species of skunk, wild rodent or strain of wild turkey, black bear (*Ursus Americanus*), mountain lion (*Felis concolor*), bobcat (*Felis rufus*), Pronghorn Antelope (*Antilocapridae*), any non-domestic member of the families *Suidae* (pigs), *Tayassuidae* (peccaries), or *Bovidae* (bison, mountain goat, mountain sheep).”

### **Areas with Dog-to-Dog Rabies Transmission**

Canine rabies virus variants have been eliminated in the US. Rabid dogs have been introduced into the continental United States from areas with dog-to-dog rabies transmission. This practice poses the risk of introducing canine-transmitted rabies to areas where it does not currently exist. The movement of dogs for the purposes of adoption or sales from areas with dog-to-dog rabies transmission should be prohibited.