

HOUSE BILL 2180

By Bone

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 39, Chapter 14, Part 2 and Title 44, relative to animal cruelty.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 39-14-211, is amended by deleting such section in its entirety and by substituting instead the following language:

No entry onto the property of another, arrest, interference with usual and customary agricultural or veterinary practices, confiscation, or any other action authorized by this part or any other law shall be taken in response to an allegation that this part has been violated with regard to livestock unless, prior to or at the same time as such action, the livestock in question is examined by a graduate of an accredited college of veterinary medicine specializing in livestock practice or a graduate from an accredited college of agriculture with a specialty in livestock. If the veterinary college graduate specializing in livestock practice or livestock specialist does not have probable cause to believe that a violation of this part has occurred with regard to the livestock, no action against the owner of the livestock described in this section shall be taken. If a person authorized by this section does not make an inspection within twenty-four (24) hours of receipt of a complaint, then a licensed veterinarian may make the inspection.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.