

PART 65
IMPORTATION OF DOGS AND CATS

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§ 65.1 Definitions.

For the purpose of this Part, the following definitions apply:

- (a) Cat means any member of the species *Felis catus*, regardless of age, sex or breed.
- (b) Dog means any member of the species *Canis familiaris*, regardless of age, sex or breed.
- (c) *Health certificate* means a certificate issued and signed by a veterinarian, legally qualified to practice in the state or country of origin.

§ 65.2 Importation prohibited without health certificate.

- (a) No person shall bring or ship or cause to be brought or shipped into the State of New York any nonresident dog or cat without providing a health certificate. The health certificate may accompany the dog or cat or may be placed in the mail for delivery to the consignee prior to entry of the dog or cat into the State of New York.
- (b) A common carrier accepting dogs or cats for delivery to a destination in the State of New York shall not be held responsible for violation of subdivision (a) of this section.
- (c) A copy of the health certificate addressed to the Director, Division of Animal Industry, New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets, Albany, NY 12235-0001 shall be placed in the mails prior to entry of the dog or cat into the State of New York.

§ 65.3 Form of health certificate.

- (a) The health certificate shall list the date of examination, the breed, sex and age of the dog or cat, the state or country of origin and the full name and complete post-office address of the consignee and consignor.
- (b) The health certificate shall state that the examination revealed no clinical evidence of infectious or communicable disease, including external parasites and

fungi, and that to the best of the veterinarian's knowledge, the dog or cat has not recently been exposed to such infectious or communicable disease.

- (c) The health certificate shall state that the dog or cat has been properly immunized against rabies by a vaccine approved by the United States Department of Agriculture within 12 months prior to the date of importation into the State of New York. The immunization requirement shall not apply if the dog or cat is under the age of three months or if a veterinarian certifies in writing that because of old age or other reason, the life of the dog or cat would be endangered by the administration of the rabies vaccine.

§ 65.4 Time limitation of health certificate.

The health certificate shall show that the dog or cat was examined by a veterinarian within 30 days of entry of the dog or cat into the State of New York.

§ 65.5 Dogs or cats exempt from the health certificate requirement.

Dogs or cats passing through the State of New York to points beyond, dogs or cats which are brought into the State of New York for temporary residence for purposes of exhibition, and dogs or cats which enter the State of New York for delivery to research institutions, dealers or other persons registered or licensed and regulated by the United States Department of Agriculture pursuant to the provisions of U.S. Public Law 89-544, as amended, are exempt from the provisions of this Part, provided that such dogs or cats are at all times properly restrained and under the immediate control of the owner or custodian; that such dogs or cats are accompanied with proof of proper immunization against rabies: and that those dogs or cats entering the State of New York pursuant to U.S. Public Law 89-544, as amended, remain subject to its provisions..