



## HB315: Confidentiality of Animal & Crop Records

Office of the State Veterinarian

House Resources Committee

Christina Carpenter  
Division Director  
Dr. Robert Gerlach, VMD  
State Veterinarian

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# HB315: Confidentiality of Records

- Keeps certain information about agricultural imports, animal identification, premise, and animal and crop test results confidential
- Allows information disclosure if there is a threat to the health or safety of an animal, crop, or the public.
- This bill would provide agriculture producers with similar confidentiality protection already afforded to other commercial industries (commercial fisheries, e.g.)
- Coordinated effort with the Departments of Environmental Conservation and Natural Resources



# HB315: Need Overview

- Farmers are reluctant to subject their animals and crops to voluntary testing for disease because the results of those tests are not proprietary as they are in other states.
- Public disclosure of this information can have potentially negative impacts on their business, and since they are not mandated tests, they opt not to test at all.
- An outbreak of disease could cause significant threats to animal health (both wild and domestic), public health, the environment or the food supply.
- Holding animal import health records, import permit information and voluntary disease testing or product quality testing as proprietary allows farmers to keep this business information confidential.





# Records vs. Information

## Record:

State of Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation Office of the State Veterinarian 5251 Dr. MLK Jr. Avenue, Anchorage, Alaska 99507 (907) 375-8200										
Certificate of Veterinary Inspection and Permit to Ship (Expires 30 days from date of issuance)										
CONSIGNOR					CONSIGNEE					
Name: <u>SANTA CLAUS</u>	Address: <u>25 Candy Cane Lane</u>	City/State/Zip: <u>North Pole, Alaska 99705</u>	State of Origination: <u>ALASKA</u>	Telephone number: <u>No Service, email to U.S. Postal Service only</u>	Name: <u>Good Boys and Girls of TEXAS</u>	Address: <u>State wide; 254 Counties</u>	City/State/Country/Zip: <u>TEXAS Roof tops</u>	Destination: <u>Under The Christmas Tree</u>	Telephone number: <u>General Delivery</u>	
Permit Number (If required by State of destination) <u>125382</u>										
ANIMAL IDENTIFICATION										
Species Reindeer	Breed/Color Brown/white	Age/Birth Date Adult	Sex M	Name Official ID PASHER	Tattoo/ Microchip SANTA	Rabies Vaccine 1 year 3 year	Manufacturer	Serial number	TB/Brucellosis TEST NEGATIVE	Other Vaccination/Test(s) Brucellosis/TBEIA CWD Certified Horn #AK0001
Reason for Movement Toy DELIVERY									Transported by: (may circle more than one) Air	Car/Truck Marine Hwy (Ferry)
ISSUING VETERINARIAN'S CERTIFICATION: I hereby certify, that I have inspected the <u>9</u> animal(s) described above and found them to be healthy and apparently free from symptoms of contagious, infectious or communicable disease. To my knowledge the animal(s) has/have not been exposed to rabies and did/do not originate from a quarantine area.										
Signature: Printed name: Address: Name of Clinic or business:	Robert F. Grelach, VMD Robert F. GRELACH 5251 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Ave			Date: <u>Winter Solstice 12/21/2017</u>	AK License #: <u>AK V 255</u>	NVAPH #: <u>025100</u>				
				City: <u>Anchorage</u>	State/Zip code: <u>AK 99507</u>					
				Telephone: <u>(907) 375-8215</u>						
Required Distribution: White-Owner Yellow-State Veterinarian (receiving state) Pink-State Veterinarian (Alaska)										
Form #18-401 (rev 9/2012)										

## Information:

8 male and 1 female reindeer were exported by air from Alaska to Texas in December. All animals were from a Chronic Wasting Disease free herd.

## Not Included:

- Personal info (name, address, phone number)
- Specific destination info
- Test results tied to a particular person, animal, or farm



# HB315: Release of Information or Records

- Example of Release of Information: Zoonotic disease outbreak (Rabies, Salmonella, Campylobacter, Brucellosis, etc.)
  - DEC would coordinate w/DHSS, ADF&G, and notify local public health and veterinary health authorities for heightened awareness and public outreach.
  - DEC would disclose the general area of the outbreak (e.g., Bethel), information about the source (wild or domestic animal), and number of cases.
- Example of Release of Records: Animal Cruelty Investigation
  - DEC would release records to local or state law enforcement to aid in a criminal investigation, including the owner's name, location of the farm, animal identification (ear tag, tattoo, microchip, etc.).



# HB315 will...

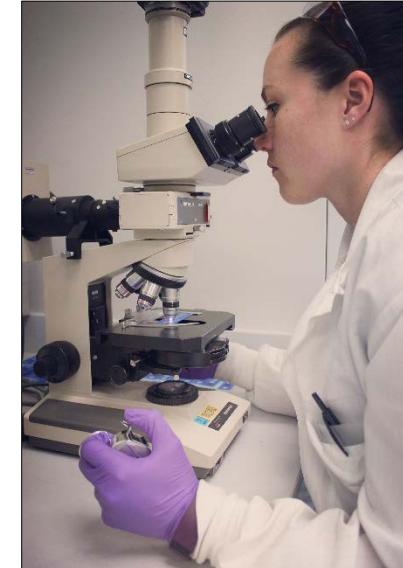
- Encourage better animal husbandry and crop management through routine surveillance testing, resulting in a higher quality product for sale and increased production efficiency.
- Allow for early identification and testing of sick or dead animals and crops, decreasing the potential for more serious outbreaks and spread of disease to other farms, plants or wildlife.
- Protect proprietary data from disclosure to a competitor regarding product development, marketing strategy, and source of animal inventory.





# HB315 will not...

- Prevent DEC, DNR or ADF&G from providing generalized or summarized information to the public about animal and crop activities, diseases, or threats.
- Hamper efforts to control a disease outbreak or mitigate a threat to an animal, crop, or the public.
- Limit law enforcement agencies from investigating cases of animal cruelty.





# HB315: Sectional Analysis

## Section 1:

- Makes certain animal and crop records maintained by the Departments of Environmental Conservation and Natural Resources exempt from the Alaska Public Records Act if they
  - 1) are importation records that identify a particular animal, crop, business, or individual;
  - 2) contain animal or crop test results if certain conditions are met; or
  - 3) are trade secrets or proprietary business or financial information.
- Allows the Departments to disclose the above described records in the case that the Departments determine that there is a threat to the health or safety of an animal, crop, or the public.
- Provides the definition of “varietal”.

## Section 2:

- Allows the Departments of Environmental Conservation and Natural Resources to adopt regulations to implement the Act.

## Section 3:

- Provides for an immediate effective date for Section 2.



# Questions?



<http://dec.alaska.gov/eh/vet.aspx>

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