

**RABIES ACT,
B.E. 2535 (1992)**

BHUMIBOL ADULYADEJ, REX;
Given on the 3rd Day of February B.E. 2535;
Being the 47th Year of the Present Reign.

His Majesty King Bhumibol Adulyadej is graciously pleased to proclaim that:
Whereas it is expedient to revise the law on prevention of rabies;
Be it, therefore, enacted by the King, by and with the advice and consent of
the National Legislative Assembly acting as the National Assembly, as follows:

Section 1. This Act is called the “Rabies Act, B.E. 2535 (1992)”.

Section 2. This Act shall come into force as from the day following the date
of its publication in the Government Gazette.¹

Section 3. The Prevention of Rabies Act, B.E. 2498 (1955) shall be repealed.

Section 4. In this Act:

“controlled animal” means a dog or other animals as specified in Ministerial
Regulation;

“owner” shall also include a person taking possession of animals;

“vaccine” means rabies-immunization vaccine for animals;

“animal tag” means a tag for the controlled animals;

* Translated by Mrs. Thararut Hanlumyung, under contract for the Office of the Council
of State of Thailand's Law for ASEAN project. – Initial Version – pending review and approval by the Office
of the Council of State.

¹ Published in the Government Gazette, Vol. 109, Part 9, Page 24, dated 12th February
B.E. 2535 (1992).

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“rabies symptoms” means in case of a dog, symptoms that it being furious, running around biting objects or being solitude hiding in dark or quiet places; mouth opened wide; tongue hanging out with dark red color; drooling; stiffed body; or dumb legs and staggering; in case of other controlled animals, symptoms being as specified by the Director-General;

“veterinary practitioner” means the veterinary practitioner under the law on control of veterinary;

“veterinarian” means a veterinarian of the Department of Livestock Development or the local administration agency, and shall also include a person with degree of not less than the Veterinary Medicine working in other government agency being appointed as a veterinarian to perform in accordance with this Act;

“competent official” means a veterinarian and a person appointed by the Minister for execution of this Act;

“local authority” means:

- (1) a Mayor for the Municipality;
- (2) a Chairperson of the Sanitary Board for the Sanitary District;
- (3) a Governor for the Provincial Administration Organization;
- (4) a Governor of Bangkok for Bangkok Metropolitan Organization;
- (5) a Pattaya City Manager for the City of Pattaya;

(6) a Chief of local administrators of the local administration agency as specified by law to be the local administration agency for that local administration;

“Director-General” means the Director-General of the Department of Livestock Development;

“Minister” means the Minister having charge and control of the execution of this Act.

Section 5. The owner of the controlled animals must ensure that all controlled animals receive vaccination from the veterinarian or a person assigned in writing by the veterinarian or the veterinary practitioner in the following timeline:

(1) in case of a dog, the owner must ensure that it receives its first vaccine when it is more than two-months old but not exceeding four-months old, and receives the next vaccine in accordance with the timeline as specified in the vaccine certificate;

(2) in case of other controlled animals, the owner must ensure that they receive the vaccine in accordance with the timeline as specified in Ministerial Regulation.

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In case the veterinarian or the person assigned in writing by the veterinarian gives the vaccine, the owner of the controlled animals shall pay the fees in the rate prescribed in Ministerial Regulation. In case the owner of the controlled animals requests the veterinarian or the person assigned in writing by the veterinarian to give the vaccine for the controlled animals at a place of the owner, the latter must be responsible for expenses as prescribed by the Director-General.

Section 6. After the controlled animals receive the vaccine, the veterinarian or the person assigned in writing by the veterinarian or the veterinary practitioner who gives the vaccine must provide the animal tags indicating that those controlled animals already receive the vaccine and the vaccine certificates to the owners.

The owner of the controlled animal must display the animal tag under paragraph one clearly and visibly on the controlled animal.

Feature of the animal tag and the vaccine certificate under paragraph one shall be as specified by the Director-General.

Section 7. In case the animal tag or the vaccine certificate under section 6 is lost or substantially damaged prior to expiry date of the tag or the timeline prescribed on the vaccine certificate, as the case may be, the owner of that controlled animal shall request for its replacement, as the case may be, within fifteen days from the date of knowing of the loss or damage, and must display the animal tag clearly and visibly on the controlled animal.

In case the owner of the controlled animal requests for the replacement under paragraph one from the veterinarian or the person assigned in writing by the veterinarian, he or she must pay the fees in the rates prescribed in Ministerial Regulation.

Section 8. The veterinarian must keep copies of the vaccine certificates and proofs of dispensing the animal tags under section 6 in accordance with the official Rules.

The veterinary practitioner must keep copies of the vaccine certificates and proofs of dispensing the animal tags under section 6 in accordance with the period specified in those certificates.

Section 9. In public places, if it appears that any controlled animal does not have the animal tag under section 6 or section 7 or having a fake tag on it, the competent official or the local authority shall have the power to take that animal for detention. If no

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owner collects it within five days, the competent official or the local authority shall have the power to eliminate that controlled animal.

Section 10. To prevent the spread of rabies, the veterinarian shall have the power to enter into houses, tenements, or places to perform the following:

(1) to inquire on quantity, gender, specie, age, and color of the controlled animal from its owner;

(2) in case it is found that any controlled animal has not received the vaccination under section 5, to give the vaccine to that animal, in which case its owner must pay double the amount of the fee;

(3) to take the head of the controlled animal which dies, or having grounds to suspect that it dies of rabies for autopsy;

(4) to order the owner of the controlled animal to exterminate the carcass of the controlled animal which dies of rabies by burial or other methods.

Entering into houses, tenements, or places under paragraph one shall be done during the sunrise and sunset.

Section 11. When it appears that any controlled animal has the rabies symptoms, the owner must notify the competent official or the local authority within twenty-four hours as from the time of knowing that the controlled animal has the symptoms.

Section 12. In case any controlled animal is bitten by other controlled animal suspecting to have rabies, whether or not the bitten controlled animal already receives the vaccine, the owner must notify the competent official or the local authority within twenty-four hours as from the time of knowing that it is bitten, so that such controlled animal is vaccinated.

The owner of the controlled animal shall observe symptoms of the bitten controlled animal for the period of not less than six months as from the time of knowing that it is bitten. If it appears that that controlled animal has the rabies symptoms within that period, the owner shall detain it and notify the competent official or the local authority within twenty-four hours as from the time of finding that the controlled animal has the rabies symptoms.

In case the controlled animal, whose owner detains it to observe the symptoms under paragraph two, dies or is lost within the specified period, the owner shall

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notify the competent official or the local authority within twenty-four hours as from the time of knowing of its death or loss. The competent official or the local authority shall perform in accordance with Rules specified by the Director-General.

Section 13. Upon being notified under section 11 or section 12, the competent official or the local authority shall notify the veterinarian for further action in accordance with section 14.

Section 14. Upon being notified or if there are reasonable grounds to suspect that any controlled animal with the rabies symptoms is in any vehicle, house, tenement, or place, the veterinarian shall have the power to request the vehicle for inspection, or enter into the house, tenement, or the place where the controlled animal is at and shall have the powers as follows:

(1) in case it appears that the controlled animal does not have the rabies symptoms but the veterinarian is of the view that the controlled animal should receive vaccination, he or she shall give the vaccine to that animal; if it appears that the controlled animal already receives the vaccination under section 5, the owner does not have to pay the fees; however, if it appears that the controlled animal has not received the vaccination under section 5, the owner must pay double the amount of the fee;

(2) in case the veterinarian suspects that any controlled animal has the rabies symptoms and has not been detained, he or she shall order the owner to promptly detain that animal in order to prevent the spread of rabies for the period of not less than fifteen days, and the veterinarian must examine symptoms of that animal in accordance with Rules specified by the Director-General;

(3) in case any controlled animal has the rabies symptoms, the veterinarian shall have the power to exterminate that animal.

Entering into the house, tenement, or place under paragraph one shall be done during the sunrise and sunset.

Section 15. In public places, if it appears that any controlled animal has the rabies symptoms, the competent official or the local authority shall have the power to exterminate that controlled animal.

Section 16. For the benefit of prevention of rabies in humans, in case the veterinarian finds that, or there are grounds to suspect that, any controlled animal has the
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rabies symptoms, he or she shall promptly notify the Public Health Officer for further action in accordance with the law on communicable diseases.

Section 17. In order to prevent the causing and outbreak of rabies, the Director-General shall the power to announce in a locality as follows:

(1) to order the owner of the controlled animal to take the animal to get the vaccine from the veterinarian or the person assigned in writing by the veterinarian on date, time, and place specified by the veterinarian; the veterinarian shall make an announcement specifying date, time, and place for such vaccination and shall publicly display it for not less than seven days in advance at the place where the vaccination will take place, the District Office or the Minor District Office, the Sub-District Office, the Office of the Village Headman, the Municipality Office, the Sanitary Office, the Pattaya City Provincial Hall, or the Office of the Local Administration Agency specified by law to be the Local Administration Agency for that local administration, as the case may be;

(2) to order the veterinarian or the person assigned in writing by the veterinarian to give the vaccine to the controlled animal at the place of its owner.

The vaccination for the controlled animal under paragraph one (1) and (2), the owner of the controlled animal does not have to pay the fees.

The announcement of the Director-General under this section shall be notified to the Governor of Bangkok or the Governor of a *Changwat* for him or her to further notify the relevant local authority agencies for action, as the case may be.

Section 18. When transferring the vaccinated controlled animal, the owner must also give the animal tag and the vaccine certificate under section 6 or section 7 to the transferee.

If the controlled animal is under the detention for observation under section 12 paragraph two, it is prohibited to dispose, dispense or transfer that controlled animal.

Section 19. In case an animal other than the controlled animal is bitten by the controlled animal with rabies, section 10 paragraph one (3), (4) and paragraph two, section 12, and section 14 paragraph one (2), (3), and paragraph two shall apply *mutatis mutandis*.

Section 20. In performing duties under this Act, the competent official must display his or her identity card to relevant persons.

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The identify card of the competent official shall be in accordance with the form specified in Ministerial Regulation.

Section 21. Any owner of the controlled animal who fails to have it vaccinated under section 5 or fails to comply with section 6 paragraph two, section 7 paragraph one, or section 18 paragraph one shall be liable to a fine of not exceeding two hundred baht.

Section 22. Any veterinarian or person assigned in writing by the veterinarian or veterinary practitioner who fails to comply with section 6 paragraph one or any veterinary practitioner who fails to comply with section 8 paragraph two shall be liable to a fine of not exceeding two hundred baht.

Section 23. Any person using a fake animal tag indicating that the controlled animal already receives the vaccine or a fake vaccine certificate, or obstructing, or not providing convenience to the veterinarian, the competent official or the local authority who performs the duties under section 9, section 10 paragraph one, section 14 paragraph one, section 15, or section 19, shall be liable to imprisonment for a term of not exceeding one month, or to a fine of not exceeding one thousand bath, or to both.

Section 24. Any owner of the controlled animal or other animals under section 19 who fails to comply with the veterinarian order under section 10 paragraph one (4) or section 14 paragraph one (2) or fails to notify the competent official or the local authority under section 11 or section 12 shall be liable to imprisonment for a term of not exceeding three months, or to a fine of not more than three thousand baht, or to both.

Section 25. Any owner of the controlled animal or other animals under section 19 who fails to observe symptoms of the bitten controlled animal or other animals under section 12, or any owner of the controlled animal who violates section 18 paragraph two, shall be liable to imprisonment for a term of not exceeding one month, or to a fine of not more than one thousand baht, or to both.

Section 26. For all offences under this Act, the Director-General or the local authority, or a person assigned by the Director-General or the local authority, as the case may be, shall have the power to settle the case. When the offender pays the fine according to the settlement within the specified period of time, the case shall be closed.

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Section 27. The owner of the controlled animal who has the controlled animal with the age for the vaccination under section 5 prior to the coming into force of this Act shall perform in accordance with section 5 within ninety days as from the date this Act comes into force.

Section 28. The Minister of Agriculture and Cooperatives shall have charge and control of the execution of this Act. He or she shall have the power to appoint the veterinarian and competent official and to issue Ministerial Regulations prescribing fees not exceeding the schedule annexed to this Act, reducing or exempting fees, and specifying other matters for the implementation of this Act.

Such Ministerial Regulations shall come into force upon their publication in the Government Gazette.

Countersigned by
Anand Panyarachun
Prime Minister

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SCHEDULE OF FEES

Vaccination	per animal	40 baht
Animal tag under section 6 or section 7	per tag	10 baht
Vaccine certificate under section 6 or section 7	per certificate	10 baht

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