



## REQUEST FOR PUBLIC COMMENT Pet Store Licensing – New Rules

The rules in this package have been reviewed pursuant to Chapter 119 of the Revised Code and are being proposed as follows. **The comment period will remain open through February 2, 2018.** Comments may be emailed to [ecomments@agri.ohio.gov](mailto:ecomments@agri.ohio.gov) or mailed to Legal Section, Ohio Department of Agriculture, 8995 E. Main St., Reynoldsburg, Ohio 43068.

The proposed rules in Chapter 901:1-8 of the Ohio Administrative Code set out regulations for the sale of dogs from pet stores in Ohio. These rules are being promulgated pursuant to Senate Bill 331 of the 131st General Assembly. This bill generally regulates all transactions involving the sales of dogs at a pet store, from the dog breeder to the future dog owner. Additionally, the bill requires that the Ohio Department of Agriculture establish rules and procedures governing pet stores, including requirements and procedures governing the licensing of pet stores. The rules established pursuant to this bill are outlined below:

**OAC 901:1-8-01** outlines the definitions as used in the chapter. These definitions mirror the definitions found in Chapter 956 of the Ohio Revised Code.

**OAC 901:1-8-02** sets forth the licensing procedures for pet stores in the state of Ohio. Applicants must submit a completed application along with a license fee of \$500 in order to be considered a complete application. The \$500 license fee is established in ORC 956.20. Further, licenses shall expire one year from issuance and must be renewed prior to expiration.

**OAC 901:1-8-03** outlines the microchip requirements for all dogs displayed, offered for sale, delivered, bartered, auctioned, brokered, given away, transferred, or sold by a pet store. Specifically, the rule allows for microchips using 125 kHz, 129 kHz, or 134.2 kHz frequencies. These frequencies are the most common types of microchips used today.

**OAC 901:1-8-04** outlines the recordkeeping requirements of pet stores. These requirements mirror those requirements found in ORC 956.20. Specifically, the rule requires that pet stores document the following information within twenty-four hours of obtaining a dog: The name and address of the source which supplied the dogs; the date the pet store took possession of the dog; the breed, gender, color, and any identifying marks of the dogs; the dog's date of birth; the permanent implanted microchip number for the dog; and the certificate of veterinary inspection that accompanied the dog. Further, if the dog was acquired by a qualified breeder or dog retailer the pet store shall document additional information. This documented information does not need to be submitted to the Department rather the information needs to be made available to the Department upon request.

**OAC 901:1-8-05** outlines the recordkeeping requirements of dog retailers. These requirements mirror those requirements found in ORC 956.051. Specifically, the rule requires that dog



retailers document the following information within twenty-four hours of obtaining a dog: The name and address of the source which supplied the dogs; the date the dog retailer took possession of the dog; the breed, gender, color, and any identifying marks of the dogs; the dog's date of birth; the permanent implanted microchip number for the dog; and the certificate of veterinary inspection that accompanied the dog. Further, if the dog was acquired from a qualified breeder the dog retailer shall document additional information. This documented information does not need to be submitted to the Department rather the information needs to be made available to the Department upon request.

