

Pamela Thomas - Dog Federation of WI

\* New Hampshire spent \$1.5 million to treat 660+ people that were exposed to a litter of rabid kittens in a pet store

Assembly Hearing Slip

(Please print plainly)

Date: 5-1

Bill No. AB232

Or Subject SALE OF RABIE VACINA

REP. DAVID WARD  
(Name)

304-N  
(Street Address or Route Number)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(City & Zip Code)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Representing)

- Speaking in favor:
- Speaking against:
- Registering in favor:
- Registering against:
- Speaking for information only:
- Neither for nor against:

Please return this slip to a messenger promptly.

Assembly Sergeant at Arms  
Room 411 West  
State Capitol  
Madison, WI 53702

Assembly Hearing Slip

(Please print plainly)

Date: 5-1-97  
Bill No. AB 232  
Or  
Subject: Rules Bill  
Randy Romanski  
(Name)  
Senator Alice Clausen  
(Street Address or Route Number)  
(City & Zip Code)  
(Representing)

Speaking in favor:   
Speaking against:   
Registering in favor:   
Registering against:   
Speaking for information only; Neither for nor against:

Please return this slip to a messenger promptly.

Assembly Sergeant at Arms:  
Room 411 West  
State Capitol  
Madison, WI 53702

Kim, I have a house closing around the noon hour. When AB 232 testimony starts, can I go toward the beginning please. Thanks. *Barry*

Assembly Hearing Slip

(Please print plainly)

Date: 5/1/97  
Bill No. AB 232  
Or  
Subject:   
GARETH R. JOHANSEN  
(Name)  
948 STARR SCHOOL RD  
(Street Address or Route Number)  
STOUGHTON 53589  
(City & Zip Code)  
W. PUBLIC HEALTH ASSOC.  
(Representing)

Speaking in favor:   
Speaking against:   
Registering in favor:   
Registering against:   
Speaking for information only; Neither for nor against:

Please return this slip to a messenger promptly.

Assembly Sergeant at Arms:  
Room 411 West  
State Capitol  
Madison, WI 53702

Assembly Hearing Slip

(Please print plainly)

Date: 5/1/97  
Bill No. AB 232  
Or  
Subject:   
ROY POLLOCK, AVM, Ph.D.  
(Name)  
512 Springdale Dr.  
(Street Address or Route Number)  
EXTON, PA 19341  
(City & Zip Code)  
PFIZER INC.  
(Representing)

Speaking in favor:   
Speaking against:   
Registering in favor:   
Registering against:   
Speaking for information only; Neither for nor against:

Please return this slip to a messenger promptly.

Assembly Sergeant at Arms:  
Room 411 West  
State Capitol  
Madison, WI 53702

Assembly Hearing Slip

(Please print plainly)

Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
BILL No. AB 232  
Or  
Subject \_\_\_\_\_

Dolly Huxton  
(Name)

W 11989 Delcrest Dr  
(Street Address or Route Number)

Gods 53555  
(City & Zip Code)

WISCONSIN Federated Humane Societies  
(Representing)

- Speaking in favor:
- Speaking against:
- Registering in favor:
- Registering against:
- Speaking for information only; Neither for nor against:

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Assembly Sergeant at Arms:  
Room 411 West  
State Capitol  
Madison, WI 53702

Assembly Hearing Slip

(Please print plainly)

Date: 5-1-97  
BILL No. 232  
Or  
Subject Robins Bill

Dr Dean Peterson  
(Name)

5021 N. State Rd 26  
(Street Address or Route Number)

Janesville, WI  
(City & Zip Code)

WI Vet Medical Assn  
(Representing)

- Speaking in favor:
- Speaking against:
- Registering in favor:
- Registering against:
- Speaking for information only; Neither for nor against:

Please return this slip to a messenger promptly.

Assembly Sergeant at Arms:  
Room 411 West  
State Capitol  
Madison, WI 53702

Assembly Hearing Slip

(Please print plainly)

Date: 5/1/97  
BILL No. AB 232  
Or  
Subject \_\_\_\_\_

Dr. Pete MacWilliams  
(Name)

17 Stacy Lane  
(Street Address or Route Number)

MADISON WI 53716  
(City & Zip Code)

WISCONSIN UMA  
(Representing)

- Speaking in favor:
- Speaking against:
- Registering in favor:
- Registering against:
- Speaking for information only; Neither for nor against:

Please return this slip to a messenger promptly.

Assembly Sergeant at Arms:  
Room 411 West  
State Capitol  
Madison, WI 53702

Assembly Hearing Slip

(Please print plainly)

Date: May 1  
Bill No. 232  
Or  
Subject

Eugene A. Hruby  
(Name)  
7493 Breton R  
(Street Address or Route Number)  
Waukegan, WI 53559  
(City & Zip Code)  
Self  
(Representing)

- Speaking in favor:
- Speaking against:
- Registering in favor:
- Registering against:
- Speaking for information only; Neither for nor against:

Please return this slip to a messenger promptly.

Assembly Sergeant at Arms  
Room 411 West  
State Capitol  
Madison, WI 53702

Assembly Hearing Slip

(Please print plainly)

Date: 5/1/97  
Bill No. AB 232  
Or  
Subject

DR YVONNE BELLAY  
(Name)  
2811 AGRICULTURE DR  
(Street Address or Route Number)  
MADISON 53708  
(City & Zip Code)  
DATED  
(Representing)

- Speaking in favor:
- Speaking against:
- Registering in favor:
- Registering against:
- Speaking for information only; Neither for nor against:

Please return this slip to a messenger promptly.

Assembly Sergeant at Arms  
Room 411 West  
State Capitol  
Madison, WI 53702

Assembly Hearing Slip

(Please print plainly)

Date: 5-1-97  
Bill No. AB 232  
Or  
Subject

Pamela Thomas  
(Name)  
1700 Peck Sta. Rd.  
(Street Address or Route Number)  
EIKHORN, 53121  
(City & Zip Code)  
Rep Fed. of WI  
(Representing)

- Speaking in favor:
- Speaking against:
- Registering in favor:
- Registering against:
- Speaking for information only; Neither for nor against:

Please return this slip to a messenger promptly.

Assembly Sergeant at Arms  
Room 411 West  
State Capitol  
Madison, WI 53702

# Vote Record

## Assembly Committee on Agriculture

Date: 5/1/97  
 Moved by: Ward Seconded by: Gronemus  
 AB: 232 Clearinghouse Rule: \_\_\_\_\_  
 AB: \_\_\_\_\_ SB: \_\_\_\_\_ Appointment: \_\_\_\_\_  
 AJR: \_\_\_\_\_ SJR: \_\_\_\_\_ Other: \_\_\_\_\_  
 A: \_\_\_\_\_ SR: \_\_\_\_\_

A/S Amdt: \_\_\_\_\_  
 A/S Amdt: \_\_\_\_\_ to A/S Amdt: \_\_\_\_\_  
 A/S Sub Amdt: \_\_\_\_\_  
 A/S Amdt: \_\_\_\_\_ to A/S Sub Amdt: \_\_\_\_\_  
 A/S Amdt: \_\_\_\_\_ to A/S Amdt: \_\_\_\_\_ to A/S Sub Amdt: \_\_\_\_\_

Be recommended for:

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Passage | <input type="checkbox"/> Indefinite Postponement |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Introduction       | <input type="checkbox"/> Tabling                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Adoption           | <input type="checkbox"/> Concurrence             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Rejection          | <input type="checkbox"/> Nonconcurrence          |
|   | <input type="checkbox"/> Confirmation            |

Committee Member

	<u>Aye</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Absent</u>	<u>Not Voting</u>
Rep. Alvin Ott, Chair	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rep. Tom Sykora	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rep. John Ainsworth	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rep. Eugene Hahn	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rep. Clifford Otte	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rep. David Ward	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rep. Robert Zukowski	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rep. Rick Skindrud	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rep. Barbara Gronemus	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rep. Marty Reynolds	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rep. Tom Springer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rep. Robert Dueholm	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rep. John Steinbrink	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rep. Joe Plouff	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Totals: 13      0      1      0

Motion Carried

Motion Failed



State of Wisconsin  
Tommy G. Thompson, Governor

## Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection

Alan T. Tracy, Secretary

2811 Agriculture Drive  
Madison, Wisconsin 53704-6777

PO Box 8911  
Madison, WI 53708-8911

Hearing Testimony  
Assembly Committee on Agriculture  
Room 417 North - State Capital  
May 1, 1997

Representative Ott and Committee Members:

The Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection is testifying today for information regarding AB 232. AB 232 will bring about some changes in Ch. 95, which provides the statutory authority for Wisconsin's animal disease control programs. This bill does two distinct things.

### Changing the age requirement for rabies vaccination of dogs.

Current Wisconsin law requires that dogs be vaccinated against rabies between 4 and 5 months of age. However, presently all rabies vaccines are licensed for use at 3 months of age and current accepted public health recommendations state that dogs should be vaccinated against rabies at 3 months of age. This discrepancy puts Wisconsin veterinarians in the unfortunate and difficult position of deciding how to best practice good preventative medicine and remain within the letter of the law. This change in the statute will bring the legal requirement for rabies vaccination into line with the best public health policy.

### Prohibiting sale of rabies vaccine to anyone who is not a veterinarian

Wisconsin state statute requires that the owner of a dog have the dog vaccinated against rabies and that the vaccination be administered by a veterinarian. The veterinarian is required to present the owner of the dog with a rabies certificate which serves as proof that the animal has been vaccinated against rabies. In addition, the dog licensing process requires that the owner of a dog present evidence (the rabies certificate provided by the veterinarian) to the licensing official that the dog is currently immunized against rabies. Although a non-veterinarian may buy and administer rabies vaccine to his/her dog, the vaccination is not valid or recognized for purposes of rabies control or licensing. It is important for a veterinarian to administer the rabies vaccine because accountability is necessary to insure that rabies vaccine is handled and administered properly and that there is appropriate documentation of the vaccination. Mishandled or inappropriately administered vaccine will not provide protection for the animal.

The fact that a nonveterinarian can buy and administer rabies

vaccine to their animal, but the vaccination is not recognized causes a great deal of confusion on the part of animal owners as well as animal control and licensing officials. It is often very difficult for individuals to comprehend why it is legal for them to buy and administer rabies vaccine to their animal, but the animal must be treated as a nonvaccinated animal in situations in which it bites a human or is exposed to a suspected rabid animal.

This provision creates uniformity in the law and clarifies the way this situation is addressed.



# David Ward

Wisconsin State Assembly

*Chair: Assembly Committee on Mandates*

## ASSEMBLY AGRICULTURE COMMITTEE May 1, 1997

### **Testimony of State Representative David Ward on Assembly Bill 232, pertaining to the sale of rabies vaccine and the rabies vaccination of dogs.**

Thank you Chairman Ott and fellow members of the committee for this opportunity to testify on Assembly Bill 232, pertaining to the sale of rabies vaccine and the rabies vaccination of dogs.

Currently, even though Wisconsin law directs that a "dog be vaccinated against rabies by a veterinarian," the availability of rabies vaccine over-the-counter is resulting in lay person administration of the vaccine.

These over-the-counter sales are not only a contradiction to state law, but also pose a serious public health concern. As part of the process for having a dog immunized, a veterinarian is required by state law to issue the owner a certificate of rabies vaccine. Among the information that must be recorded at that time is:

- The date of the vaccine
- The type of rabies vaccine administered and the manufacturer's serial number
- The date that the immunization expires as specified for that type of vaccine by the Center for Disease Control of the U.S. Department of Health and Humane Services.

If there is a question about the immunization status of a pet, this information becomes critically important for public health authorities vested with the task of assuring that a specific animal was appropriately inoculated. This proposal will ensure that our pets are immunized correctly, that state law is complied with, and that the public is protected against the rabies virus.

Other states such as New York and Texas found themselves in the thick of a rabies outbreak and have had to spend millions of dollars to handle the situation. They did not think they would have a problem until it was too late. We need to learn from them that we are also not immune to this potentially deadly virus.

I ask for your support in ensuring that current state law is complied with and that we protect our families from the rabies virus. Thank you.

allocated to the areas of highest priority. The council shall recommend its findings to the animal health and disease research board for final determination.

(b) The council shall, at least annually, compile information and data sufficient to evaluate the progress of research projects funded by the animal health and disease research board under sub. (2) and may recommend to the board that changes be made in the scope or direction of any funded research project.

(2) **ANIMAL HEALTH AND DISEASE RESEARCH BOARD.** (a) The animal health and disease research board shall determine priority areas for animal health and disease research and the appropriate percentage of necessary research effort from recommendations of the council under sub. (1) and shall encourage members of the faculty of the university of Wisconsin system to submit applications for funding of research projects in those areas.

(b) For each of the priority research areas for which applications are received under par. (a), annually on May 15 the board shall appoint a review panel consisting of a minimum of 5 members of the faculty of the university of Wisconsin system for the purposes of reviewing and evaluating the applications received in the 12-month period preceding appointment. No person who submitted an application during the preceding 12 months may be a member of a panel appointed to review applications in the same research area as his or her application. Each appointed review panel shall review and rank the research proposal applications in order of highest merit for funding and shall submit a list of ranked applications to the board for final determination.

(c) The board shall evaluate the ranked listing of research applications received from the review panels. The board shall award funds to applicants for pure research or applied research projects from the appropriation under s. 20.115 (2) (gb). All funded research projects shall be conducted in this state. The board shall monitor the fiscal status of research projects funded by the board.

(d) Upon receipt of the evaluations of the progress of the currently funded research projects from the council under sub. (1) (b), the board may change the scope or direction of any funded project.

(e) The board shall accept gifts, donations, grants and bequests made for the purpose of funding animal health and disease research and effect the specific purpose of the gift, donation, grant or bequest.

History: 1987 a. 281.

**95.18 Animals in transit.** Animals in transit in the state are subject to all the provisions of law relating to contagious or infectious diseases of animals, and to the regulations and orders of the department.

**95.19 Diseased animals.** (1) **DEFINITIONS.** In this section, "knowingly" means that the actor believes that the specified fact exists.

(2) **PROHIBITIONS.** No person may do any of the following:

(a) Import, sell, transport or exhibit an animal that is exposed to a contagious or infectious disease, except as provided in sub. (3) (a).

(b) Import, sell, transport or exhibit an animal that is infected with a contagious or infectious disease, except as provided in sub. (3) (a).

(c) Knowingly conceal that an animal that is imported, sold, transported or exhibited has been exposed to or infected with a contagious or infectious disease.

(d) Knowingly misrepresent that an animal has not been exposed to or infected with a contagious or infectious disease.

(e) Knowingly permit an animal that has been exposed to or infected with a contagious or infectious disease to commingle with other animals under conditions that may cause the disease to spread to an animal owned by another person.

(3) **RULE MAKING.** The department may promulgate rules:

(a) Authorizing the transport under a department permit of an animal exposed to or infected with a contagious or infectious disease for slaughter or other purposes prescribed by the department.

(b) Specifying those contagious or infectious diseases to which the prohibitions of sub. (2), and the rules promulgated under par. (a), apply.

(4) **DAMAGES.** A person who violates this section is liable to any person injured for damages sustained as a result of the violation.

History: 1989 a. 277.

**95.195 Paratuberculosis; implied warranty in sale of animals.** (1) **IMPLIED WARRANTY.** Notwithstanding s. 402.316 (3) (c), in each contract for the sale of an animal, there is an implied warranty that the animal is not infected with paratuberculosis unless the seller does any of the following:

(a) Notifies the buyer in writing before the sale that the animal is not warranted as being uninfected with paratuberculosis.

(b) Complies with paratuberculosis testing and disclosure requirements established in rules promulgated by the department under sub. (2).

(2) **RULE MAKING.** The department shall promulgate rules prescribing all of the following:

(a) Test procedures to determine whether an animal is infected with paratuberculosis for purposes of sub. (1) (b).

(b) Requirements for disclosure of the results of test procedures under par. (a) to a prospective buyer of an animal.

History: 1989 a. 277.

**95.20 Embargo on animals from infected districts.**

When there is reason to believe that there is danger of the introduction into this state of any communicable disease prevailing among domestic animals outside this state or of its spread in this state, the department shall investigate the existing conditions, and if it concludes that danger exists to the livestock interests of this state therefrom, it may prohibit the importation of animals of the diseased kind from the infected district into this state, or the removal of them from one part of the state to another, under such regulations as the department may establish. The definition of "communicable disease" in s. 990.01 (5g) does not apply to this section.

History: 1981 c. 291; 1981 c. 391 s. 210.

**95.21 Rabies control program.** (1) **DEFINITIONS.** As used in this section:

(am) "Isolation facility" means a humane society shelter, veterinary hospital, municipal pound or other place specified by an officer which is equipped with a pen or cage which isolates the animal from contact with other animals.

(b) "Officer" means a peace officer, local health officer, as defined in s. 250.01 (5), humane officer, warden, an employe designated by the department or other person designated by the governing body of the county, city, village or town.

(c) "Owner" includes a person who owns, harbors, keeps or controls an animal.

(d) "Peace officer" has the meaning designated under s. 939.22 (2).

(e) "Veterinarian" has the meaning designated under s. 453.02 (7).

(f) "Warden" has the meaning designated under s. 24.01 (11).

(2) **RABIES VACCINATION REQUIRED FOR DOGS.** (a) **Requirement for vaccination.** Except as provided in s. 174.054, the owner of a dog shall have the dog vaccinated against rabies by a veterinarian within 30 days after the dog reaches 4 months of age and revaccinated within one year after the initial vaccination. If the owner obtains the dog or brings the dog into this state after the dog has reached 4 months of age, the owner shall have the dog vaccinated against rabies within 30 days after the dog is obtained or brought into the state unless the dog has been vaccinated as evidenced by a current certificate of rabies vaccination from this state

or another state. The owner of a dog shall have the dog revaccinated against rabies by a veterinarian before the date that the immunization expires as stated on the certificate of vaccination or, if no date is specified, within 3 years after the previous vaccination.

(b) *Issuance of certificate of rabies vaccination.* A veterinarian who vaccinates a dog against rabies shall complete and issue to the owner a certificate of rabies vaccination bearing a serial number and in the form approved by the department stating the owner's name and address, the name, sex, spayed or unspayed, neutered or unneutered, breed and color of the dog, the date of the vaccination, the type of rabies vaccine administered and the manufacturer's serial number, the date that the immunization expires as specified for that type of vaccine by the center for disease control of the U.S. department of health and human services and the city, village or town where the dog is required to be licensed.

(c) *Copies of certificate.* The veterinarian shall keep a copy of each certificate of rabies vaccination in a file maintained for this purpose until the date that the immunization expires or until the dog is revaccinated whichever occurs first.

(e) *Rabies vaccination tag.* After issuing the certificate of rabies vaccination, the veterinarian shall deliver to the owner a rabies vaccination tag of durable material bearing the same serial number as the certificate, the year the vaccination was given and the name, address and telephone number of the veterinarian.

(f) *Tag to be attached.* The owner shall attach the rabies vaccination tag or a substitute tag to a collar and a collar with the tag attached shall be kept on the dog at all times but this requirement does not apply to a dog during competition or training, to a dog while hunting, to a dog securely confined indoors, to a dog securely confined in a fenced area or to a dog while actively involved in herding or controlling livestock if the dog is under the control of its owner. The substitute tag shall be of a durable material and contain the same information as the rabies vaccination tag. The requirements of this paragraph do not apply to a dog which is not required to be vaccinated under sub. (2) (a).

(g) *Duplicate tag.* The veterinarian may furnish a new rabies vaccination tag with a new serial number to an owner in place of the original tag upon presentation of the certificate of rabies vaccination. The veterinarian shall then indicate the new tag number on the certificate and keep a record in the file.

(h) *Cost.* The owner shall pay the cost of the rabies vaccination and the cost associated with the issuance of a certificate of rabies vaccination and the delivery of a rabies vaccination tag.

(3) **DISTRICT QUARANTINE.** (a) *Dogs confined.* If a district is quarantined for rabies, all dogs within the district shall be kept securely confined, tied, leashed or muzzled. Any dog not confined, tied, leashed or muzzled is declared a public nuisance and may be impounded. All officers shall cooperate in the enforcement of the quarantine. The clerk of every town, city or village wholly or partly within the quarantine district shall promptly post in at least 3 public places in the town, city or village, notices of quarantine furnished by the department for posting.

(b) *Exemption of vaccinated dog from district quarantine.* A dog which is immunized currently against rabies as evidenced by a valid certificate of rabies vaccination or other evidence is exempt from the district quarantine provisions of par. (a) if a rabies vaccination tag or substitute tag is attached to the dog's collar.

(4) **QUARANTINE OR SACRIFICE OF AN ANIMAL SUSPECTED OF BITING A PERSON OR BEING INFECTED OR EXPOSED TO RABIES.** (a) *Quarantine or sacrifice of dog or cat.* An officer shall order a dog or cat quarantined if the officer has reason to believe that the animal bit a person, is infected with rabies or has been in contact with a rabid animal. If a quarantine cannot be imposed because the dog or cat cannot be captured, the officer may kill the animal. The officer may kill a dog or cat only as a last resort or if the owner agrees.

The officer shall attempt to kill the animal in a humane manner and in a manner which avoids damage to the animal's head.

(b) *Sacrifice of other animals.* An officer may order killed or may kill an animal other than a dog or cat if the officer has reason to believe that the animal bit a person or is infected with rabies. If livestock is killed under this paragraph, the owner is eligible for an indemnity payment in an amount equal to the indemnity provided under this chapter for livestock destroyed because of unknown or unidentified diseases. If the decision is made by an employe of the department, the indemnity shall be paid from the appropriation under s. 20.115 (2) (b). If the decision is made by another officer, the indemnity shall be paid from the dog license fund.

NOTE: Par. (b) is amended eff. 11-1-97 by 1995 Wis. Act 450 to read:

(b) *Sacrifice of other animals.* An officer may order killed or may kill an animal other than a dog or cat if the officer has reason to believe that the animal bit a person or is infected with rabies. Except as provided in s. 95.36, if an animal of a species raised primarily to produce food for human consumption is killed under this paragraph, the owner is eligible for an indemnity payment in an amount equal to the indemnity provided under s. 95.31 (3). If the decision is made by an employe of the department, the indemnity shall be paid from the appropriation under s. 20.115 (2) (b). If the decision is made by another officer, the indemnity shall be paid from the dog license fund.

(c) *Sacrifice of a dog or cat.* An officer may order killed or may kill a dog or cat if the owner of the dog or cat violates sub. (5) (a), (b) or (c).

(5) **QUARANTINE OF DOG OR CAT.** (a) *Delivery to isolation facility or quarantine on premises of owner.* An officer who orders a dog or cat to be quarantined shall deliver the animal or shall order the animal delivered to an isolation facility as soon as possible but no later than 24 hours after the original order is issued or the officer may order the animal to be quarantined on the premises of the owner if the animal is immunized currently against rabies as evidenced by a valid certificate of rabies vaccination or other evidence.

(b) *Health risk to humans.* If a dog or cat is ordered to be quarantined because there is reason to believe that the animal bit a person, the custodian of an isolation facility or the owner shall keep the animal under strict isolation under the supervision of a veterinarian for at least 10 days after the incident occurred. In this paragraph, "supervision of a veterinarian" includes, at a minimum, examination of the animal on the first day of isolation, on the last day of isolation and on one intervening day. If the observation period is not extended and if the veterinarian certifies that the dog or cat has not exhibited any signs of rabies, the animal may be released from quarantine at the end of the observation period.

(c) *Risk to animal health.* 1. If a dog or cat is ordered to be quarantined because there is reason to believe that the animal has been exposed to a rabid animal and if the dog or cat is not currently immunized against rabies, the custodian of an isolation facility or the owner shall keep the animal leashed or confined for 180 days. The owner shall have the animal vaccinated against rabies between 155 and 165 days after the exposure to a rabid animal.

2. If a dog or cat is ordered to be quarantined because there is reason to believe that the animal has been exposed to a rabid animal but if the dog or cat is immunized against rabies, the custodian of an isolation facility or the owner shall keep the animal leashed or confined for 60 days. The owner shall have the animal revaccinated against rabies as soon as possible after exposure to a rabid animal.

(d) *Sacrifice of a dog or cat exhibiting symptoms of rabies.* If a veterinarian determines that a dog or cat exhibits symptoms of rabies during the original or extended observation period, the veterinarian shall notify the owner and the officer who ordered the animal quarantined and the officer or veterinarian shall kill the animal in a humane manner and in a manner which avoids damage to the animal's head. If the dog or cat is suspected to have bitten a person, the veterinarian shall notify the person or the person's physician.

(6) **DELIVERY OF CARCASS; PREPARATION; EXAMINATION BY LABORATORY OF HYGIENE.** An officer who kills an animal shall deliver

the carcass to a veterinarian or local health department, as defined in s. 250.01 (4). The veterinarian or local health department shall prepare the carcass, properly prepare and package the head of the animal in a manner to minimize deterioration, arrange for delivery by the most expeditious means feasible of the head of the animal to the state laboratory of hygiene and dispose of or arrange for the disposal of the remainder of the carcass in a manner which minimizes the risk of exposure to any rabies virus. The laboratory of hygiene shall examine the specimen and determine if the animal was infected with rabies. The state laboratory of hygiene shall notify the department, the veterinarian or local health department which prepared the carcass and, if the animal is suspected to have bitten a person, that person or that person's physician.

(7) **COOPERATION OF VETERINARIAN.** Any practicing veterinarian who is requested to be involved in the rabies control program by an officer is encouraged to cooperate in a professional capacity with the department, the laboratory of hygiene, the local health department, as defined in s. 250.01 (4), the officer involved and, if the animal is suspected to have bitten a person, the person's physician.

(8) **RESPONSIBILITY FOR QUARANTINE AND LABORATORY EXPENSES.** The owner of an animal is responsible for any expenses incurred in connection with keeping the animal in an isolation facility, supervision and examination of the animal by a veterinarian, preparation of the carcass for laboratory examination and the fee for the laboratory examination. If the owner is unknown, the county is responsible for these expenses.

(9) **LOCAL PROGRAMS.** (a) This section does not prohibit or restrict a county, city, village or town from imposing a rabies control program with more restrictive provisions.

(b) This section does not prohibit a county, city, village or town from imposing its own rabies control program if the department approves the program. The department may not approve a program unless it provides for at least 2 examinations of the quarantined animal by a veterinarian or a trained individual with veterinarian involvement during a 10-day isolation period. The department shall promulgate rules establishing criteria for the approval of programs under this paragraph and defining "trained individual" and "veterinarian involvement".

(10) **PENALTIES.** (a) *Failure to obtain rabies vaccination.* An owner who fails to have a dog vaccinated against rabies as required under sub. (2) (a) may be required to forfeit not less than \$50 nor more than \$100.

(b) *Refusal to comply with order or quarantine.* An owner who refuses to comply with an order issued under this section to deliver an animal to an officer, isolation facility or veterinarian or who does not comply with the conditions of an order that an animal be quarantined shall be fined not less than \$100 nor more than \$1,000 or imprisoned not more than 60 days or both.

(c) *Other violation.* A person who violates any provision of this section not specified under pars. (a) and (b) may be required to forfeit up to \$50.

History: 1979 c. 129, 289, 357; 1981 c. 285; 1981 c. 314 s. 144; 1983 a. 189 s. 329 (18); 1983 a. 451; 1985 a. 135, 184; 1993 a. 27; 1995 a. 450.

**95.22 Reports of animal diseases.** (1) Each veterinarian shall immediately report to the department the existence among animals of any communicable disease coming to the veterinarian's knowledge. The report shall be in writing and shall include a description of the diseased animal, the name and address of the owner or person in charge of the animal, if known, and the location of the animal. The definition of "communicable disease" in s. 990.01 (5g) does not apply to this subsection.

History: 1981 c. 291; 1981 c. 391 s. 210; 1993 a. 492.

**95.23 Disease investigation and enforcement.**

(1) Authorized inspectors and agents of the department may enter at reasonable times any premises, building or place to investigate the existence of animal diseases or to investigate violations of or otherwise enforce the laws relating to animal health. Any

animals or materials suspected of being infected may be examined or tested. No person shall obstruct or interfere with such investigation or enforcement work, or attempt to do so, in any manner, by threat or otherwise.

(2) Upon request of an authorized inspector or agent of the department, sheriffs and police officers shall assist in the enforcement of the laws relating to animal health.

(3) Upon reasonable notice from the department, owners or persons in charge of animals shall cause them to be restrained or confined so that they may be identified, examined and tested or otherwise treated or disposed of as authorized by law.

(4) When any animals or materials infected or suspected of being infected have been quarantined, no person shall remove them from the premises, or otherwise fail to comply with the terms of the quarantine, except upon written permit from the department.

**95.232 Confidentiality of paratuberculosis records.** Any information kept by the department that identifies the owners of livestock herds infected, or suspected of being infected, with paratuberculosis is not subject to inspection or copying under s. 19.35 except as the department determines is necessary to protect the public health, safety or welfare.

History: 1989 a. 31.

**95.235 Sale of certain painted utensils.** Any person who sells, for the purpose of feeding livestock, any utensil painted with a substance having a toxic effect upon livestock when taken orally shall be punished under s. 95.99 (1).

History: 1975 c. 41; 1979 c. 129 s. 15; 1981 c. 66 s. 8.

**95.24 Living vaccine, hog cholera, anthrax, swine erysipelas.** (1) No person shall have in his or her possession or furnish to another any live virus hog cholera vaccine, including vaccines produced from a modified or attenuated strain of hog cholera virus, except that such vaccines may be in the possession of a biological laboratory inspected and licensed by the federal government, persons having written approval from the department for its experimental use, or veterinarians having a permit from the department for its use in vaccinating or treating swine as necessary for export or for such other uses as are authorized by the department for the control of serious outbreaks of the disease.

(3) (a) No type of living vaccine for immunizing against anthrax or swine erysipelas may be administered to any domestic animal, including fowl, or sold or dispensed in this state without first having obtained the written approval of the chief veterinarian of the department. Approval to administer such vaccine shall be granted to licensed veterinarians only, and then only to qualify the animal or fowl for export or in the event that any of the following has been established:

1. The animals to be so treated are infected.

2. The animals to be so treated are on premises known to be contaminated.

3. The animals to be so treated have been exposed within 40 days to infection with the disease for which the living vaccine is prescribed as a proper immunizing agent.

(b) Every veterinarian who so administers such living vaccine shall render to the department a report of the use and the results thereof at such time and in such manner as it may require.

History: 1993 a. 213, 492.

**95.25 Tuberculosis control program.** (1) In order to detect and control bovine tuberculosis the department may test for tuberculosis those cattle where indication of possible infection is disclosed by means of the slaughter cattle identification program and any other cattle, farm-raised deer or other species the department has reason to believe may be infected or exposed or considered necessary to test for any other reason. Tuberculosis tests authorized by the department shall be made at such times and in such manner as the department determines, in the light of the latest and best scientific and practical knowledge and experience.

## Vaccinate pets against Rabies

JEFFERSON — This is your best bet to protect your pet!

The Humane Society Spring Rabies Vaccination Clinic will take place on Saturday, May 3, at Jefferson High School from 1-3 p.m. Persons wishing to have their pets vaccinated against rabies as required by state law should park in the west parking lot of the high school.

Both dogs and cats can be vaccinated. Dogs should be leashed and cats should be brought in carriers. Sullivan Veterinary Service will donate their expertise and the cost of the rabies shot is \$10.

Now is also the time that pet owners should consult with their veterinarian to make sure that their pets are protected from disease.

Dogs should have current distemper and rabies shots, be checked for intestinal parasites and receive oral protection for heartworm, as well.

Cats should be current on their distemper and leukemia vaccinations and, especially if they roam outdoors, should be vaccinated against rabies as well.

Timely treatment for all pets can prevent heartbreak in the future.

For more information about the Humane Society's Rabies Vaccination Clinic, call 674-2048.





State Senator  
*Alice Clausing*



May 1, 1997

Testimony of Senator Alice Clausing on Assembly Bill 232  
Assembly Committee on Agriculture

I would like to thank the committee for accepting testimony on Assembly Bill 232, relating to the sale of rabies vaccine and rabies vaccination of dogs.

Rabies is a dreaded, fatal disease. The horrors of rabies hit home for me when a veterinarian from my district contacted me to inform me that his pregnant wife was exposed to rabies. Exposure to rabies can mean euthanasia or extended quarantine for our pets and a series of painful shots for any person exposed to the disease. Rabies can be fatal if not treated immediately after its transmission.

Unfortunately, the Center For Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) reports that incidents of animal rabies in the United States are on the rise, reaching close to 10,000 in 1995. The rabies outbreak has been especially high for raccoons, making Wisconsin vulnerable because of its large population of raccoons.

Humans are typically exposed to rabies through pets because the average pet is more likely to be exposed to a rabid skunk, raccoon, or other wild animal. Rabies control programs were implemented in the 1940's and 1950's with the principle of protecting humans from this disease by protecting their pets.

Specifically, Wisconsin law tries to prevent the spread of rabies by requiring all dogs to be vaccinated by a veterinarian. Vaccination by a veterinarian ensures that properly stored and dated vaccine is used, the vaccination is done properly, and a record is kept to ensure that a dog's vaccination information is available should the dog bite a human.

Although our law requires veterinarians to administer the rabies vaccine, the law still permits over-the-counter sales of the vaccine. This prompts some people to vaccinate their own animals.



Without control over expiration dates, storage requirements and proper administration, the vaccine could be ineffective. Administration of the vaccine by pet owners also lacks the adequate record keeping required by law, giving pet owners a false sense of security. Because record keeping is so uncertain in the state, Wisconsin law requires dogs that bite humans to be treated as though they were not immunized properly if the vaccine is administered by a lay person.

To protect the health and welfare of our families, AB 232 prohibits the sale of rabies vaccine to anyone other than a veterinarian. This ensures that a trained person who can be held accountable will be entrusted with the task of properly vaccinating dogs. This also ensures records of the vaccination will be kept because state law requires veterinarians to record the following information:

- the date of the rabies vaccine,
- the type of rabies vaccine and the manufacturer's serial number,
- the date that type of vaccine's immunization expires as specified by the CDC and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

If there is a question about the immunization status of a pet, this information becomes critically important for public health authorities charged with the task of assuring appropriately inoculated pets.

Current law requires that the owner of a dog must have the dog vaccinated against rabies within thirty days after it reaches four months of age. AB 232 requires that the dog now be vaccinated after the dog reaches three months of age and before the dog reaches five months of age. This gives the veterinarian an earlier and longer time frame to complete a proper vaccination.

Representative Ward introduced this bill last session, and it passed on a strong bi-partisan vote of 98-1, but it did not pass the Senate. AB 232 and its companion bill, SB 130, enjoy broad bi-partisan support this session. I ask you to join me in giving our support to this bill to protect Wisconsin's pets and residents from the threat of rabies and the improper vaccinations of our animals.

## Rabies Clinics in Wisconsin (partial list)

<b>Counties •Cities</b>	<b>Sponsor</b>	<b>Veterinarian/clinic involved</b>	<b>Cost (range \$5-\$15; av. \$9.14)</b>
Barron •Barron	Kiwanis Club	Barron Veterinary Clinic	\$8 (clinic since 1977)
Brown •Wrightstown	NA	Veterinary Clinic of Wrightstown	NA
Calumet •Brillion/Reedsville •Sherwood	NA NA	Dr. Sheena Hruby Dr. John Dees	NA \$10
Chippewa •Chippewa Falls	Chippewa Falls Rotary Club	Chippewa Vet. Clinic; Kindness Animal Hospital	\$5
Clark •Neilsville	Clark County Humane Society	Dr. Jean Liljegren, Grassland Vet. Serv.	\$8 (1994, 1996)
Columbia •Portage	New Directions 4-H Club	Dr. Michael Cooper	\$7 (1996)
Crawford •Prairie du Chien •Seneca •Wauzeka	NA NA NA	NA NA NA	\$5 (since 1975) \$5 \$5
Dane •Madison (whole county) •Stoughton •Madison	Dane County Humane Society NA NA	Dane County VMA  Dr. Mike Peterson Anamart	\$9  NA \$6
Dodge •Reesville •Theresa Township	Lakeside 4-H NA	NA NA	\$6 NA
Iron •Gillett	Gillett Area Ambulance Service	Dr. Lisa Radwan	\$15
Jefferson •Sullivan  •Jefferson	Humane Society  Humane Society	Sullivan Veterinary Service Animal Clinic of Fort Atkinson	\$10 (1995-7)  \$5 (1994)
LaCrosse	Pet Food Warehouse 2x per week	NA	\$10
Marathon •Individual clinics •Mosinee •County wide	NA Pet Food Warehouse Marathon Co. Humane	most clinics Dr. Robert Pope Many	\$9-\$15 \$9 NA

Counties •Cities	Sponsor	Veterinarian/clinic involved	Cost (range \$5-\$15; av. \$9.14)
Milwaukee	NA NA	Parkland Vet. Clinic St. Paul Clinic	\$15 \$15
Monroe •Sparta	Monroe County Humane Society	Ridgeview Vet. Clinic Northside Vet. Clinic Cashton Vet Clinic	reduced clinic prices reduced clinic prices reduced clinic prices
Oconto •Abrams  •Lena	Annual Swap and Pet Shot Clinic  Lena FFA	local veterinarians  Dair-Ray Veterinary Service	3yr @ \$10 5-way@\$15  rabies \$10, distemper 5 in 1\$11, Lyme \$13
Pierce •Prescott	NA	Dr. Jones-Witthuhn	NA
Polk	Humane Society	Dr. David Clausen	\$5-11
Racine •Norway	City health	Muskego/Windlake An. Hospital	\$9
Rock •Edgerton •Evansville	NA City council ordinance	Dr. Terry Johnson Evansville Vet. Clinic	NA \$8.50
Washburn •Minong •Solon Springs •Spooner •Shell Lake	County health Fireman's Auxiliary Spooner newspaper Humane Society	Spooner Vet. Clinic Spooner Vet. Clinic Spooner Vet. Clinic Cumberland Vet. Clinic	\$9 (since 1982) \$9 (since 1982) \$9 (since 1982) \$9
Washington •Kewauskum •Whole county	Kewauskum FFA Washington County Humane Society	Drs. Charles &Greg Ogi Pip (UW-SVM)	\$10 (1994,1996) \$12
Waukesha •Norway	City health	Muskego/Windlake An. Hospital	\$9
Waupaca •Marion  •Grant  •Dupont	K-9 Companions(1996)  Caroline Aces (1997) Caroline Aces 4-H (1995) Sunrise 4-H (1995)	Dr. Al Prudom (We Care Animal Hosp.)  Clintonville Veterinary Clinic  Manawa/Marion Veterinary Clinic	NA  NA  NA

## Confirmed\* Rabies Cases in 1989 and 1993

1989 was the year prior to the rabies epidemic in the Northeast and 1993 was its peak year.

	1989			1993		
	All animals	Raccoons	All domestic	All animals	Raccoons	All domestic
Connecticut	3	0	0	780	662	17
Delaware	36	21	0	135	100	12
New Jersey	50	16	1	466	332	21
New York	51	0	0	2694	2320	79
<b>Total</b>	<b>140</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>4075</b>	<b>3414</b>	<b>129</b>

Source: JAVMA, "Rabies Surveillance in the United States," December 15, 1990 and December 15, 1994.

\*Confirmed cases are those in which brain tissue was submitted and tested positive for rabies. These numbers do not include rabid animals which die in the wild, in a field, on a highway, or are shot and buried -- unless the brain was submitted for testing.

**TESTIMONY ON ASSEMBLY BILL 232**  
**WISCONSIN ASSEMBLY AGRICULTURE COMMITTEE**  
**MAY 1, 1997**

**ROY POLLOCK, DVM, Ph.D.**  
**VICE PRESIDENT, COMPANION ANIMAL DIVISION**  
**PFIZER ANIMAL HEALTH**

Good morning. I'm Roy Pollock, Vice President of the Companion Animal Division of Pfizer. It's a pleasure to speak to Chairman Ott and members of the Committee in support of AB-232, legislation which would help ensure that rabies vaccines are administered exclusively by licensed veterinarians.

Let me begin by giving the committee a short introduction to my professional background. I have a Doctorate in Veterinary Medicine and a Ph.D. in Virology from Cornell. I then spent 9 years at Cornell as a professor conducting research and teaching. I have published more than 40 articles and book chapters in the fields of infectious disease and medical education, and received the American Animal Hospital Association's "Veterinarian of the Year Award" in 1987. I have been with Pfizer since 1989, and became Vice President in 1993.

As a leading manufacturer of animal rabies vaccines, Pfizer Animal Health supports this legislation, which would prohibit the over-the-counter sale of rabies vaccines as well as make modifications as to when dogs must receive the vaccine.

Wisconsin law already recognizes the public health benefits of rabies vaccine administration by veterinarians. Indeed, its administration by lay people is not even recognized under the statute -- and for good reason. Only a licensed veterinarian can

assure the proper storage, administration and documentation of these vaccines.

First, proper storage of rabies vaccines is essential. The immunizing properties (antigens) can be destroyed by excessive heat - or even room temperature for prolonged periods. They cannot be mixed with other vaccines and given simultaneously. Most lay people simply do not understand the importance of complying with these guidelines or ensuring that a "cold chain" is rigorously maintained until the time of administration. Improper storage can render vaccines useless, giving pet owners a false sense of security that their dogs, families and neighbors are protected from this deadly virus. The importance of proper immunization of pets should not be underestimated: dogs and cats pose the greatest threat of rabies exposure for humans, accounting for over 50% of rabies treatment.

Second, administration by a veterinarian ensures that the animal receives not only the appropriate type of rabies vaccine, but also that it is administered correctly and at the right age and interval. Antibodies that a puppy or kitten receives from its mother can block immunization if the animal is inoculated at too early an age. Repeat immunizations at specified intervals are required to maintain immunity and these differ depending on the type of vaccine used. The vaccine must be properly administered.

Would an average dog owner know how to properly give an injection to ensure either subcutaneous or intramuscular injection as required by the label? Would they realize if they had injected the vaccine improperly or what to do if the dog moved and they jabbed themselves? Once again, there is much greater assurance that the vaccine will be efficacious if it is delivered by a properly trained and licensed veterinarian or technician.

Third, it is essential for the public's health that there be appropriate and authoritative documentation of the vaccine's administration by a veterinarian. In the event an animal has been bitten by a rabid raccoon or skunk, it will be important to have rapid access to the pet's medical records and history of the rabies vaccine administration -- including the time of necessary booster shots.

Likewise, a properly documented history of rabies immunization is essential in determining the proper course of action in cases of human exposure.

Post-exposure immunoprophylaxis of people for rabies is an expensive and anxiety-producing procedure -- costing over \$1,000 and involving several painful injections to the arm. Ensuring the proper storage, administration and documentation of rabies vaccination by veterinarians will reduce the cost of post-exposure treatment, avoid the anguish and expense of quarantine of the family pet, and help protect the public welfare.

Wisconsin and other surrounding states have seen a steady rise in the number of rabies cases since 1990. Rabies is too serious a disease to entrust to haphazard immunization by well-meaning, but not medically-trained dog owners. AB 232 is a simple, effective way to help ensure that dogs, their owners and the community are better protected.

I should note that even though this bill will eliminate a potential channel of distribution for our product -- the retail market -- we believe strongly that the public health benefits far outweigh any economic benefits the current system provides to Pfizer.

Thank you again for allowing me to speak on this important public health issue. I'd be pleased to try to answer any questions the Committee may have.

## Protect your pets

Vaccinations are available to ensure your dog, cat, ferret or livestock animals will not get rabies. It is up to you to ensure that the shots are kept up to date. **For your pet to be considered legally vaccinated, Wisconsin law requires that a veterinarian provide rabies vaccinations to the animal.**

State law also makes rabies vaccination mandatory for all dogs. In the United States, rabid cats have outnumbered rabid dogs in 8 out of the last 10 years.

Protect your pets from stray or wild animals, and make sure they are identified by a licensed tag and a rabies vaccination tag.

## Protect your whole family

- Vaccinate your pets against rabies.
- Don't attract animals to your home by feeding them.
- Keep tight-fitting lids on garbage cans
- Keep garage and shed doors closed, and cap all chimneys so animals do not nest in these areas or enter your home.
- Avoid contact with wild animals and with stray animals you do not know.

Some wild animals have become very accustomed to living near people. Always be cautious because you cannot tell for sure if an animal has rabies just by looking at it.

## What to do when an animal bites or scratches a human

If someone is bitten by a cat, dog or wild animal:

1. Wash the wound immediately with soap and running water for at least five minutes.
2. See a physician immediately, even for minor wounds.
3. If your pet bit someone or has been bitten, immediately confine the pet and contact the local animal control officer or public health agency and check with your pet's veterinarian for treatment and rabies vaccination history.

4. If the bite is from a wild or stray animal, **DO NOT** try to capture the animal unless you are sure you can do so without incurring injury.
5. Do not destroy the animal which has bitten a human or other animal. Contact the local animal control officer or public health agency.

## Signs of rabies

An animal infected with rabies may show no visible symptoms for several days. When the disease does manifest itself, however, you may notice nervousness, aggressiveness and abnormal behavior, such as wild animals losing their fear of humans, or nocturnal animals being active in the daytime.



For more information contact:

- County municipal health department for animal bites to humans
- Wisconsin Rabies Control Officer (608) 224-4888 for animals biting animals
- Or your local veterinarian



Wisconsin  
Veterinary Medical  
Association

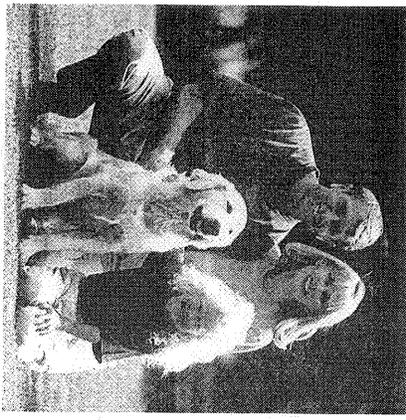


State Medical Society  
of Wisconsin



Pfizer Animal Health

# Rabies



Vaccinations  
Save Lives.  
Protect Your  
Whole Family.

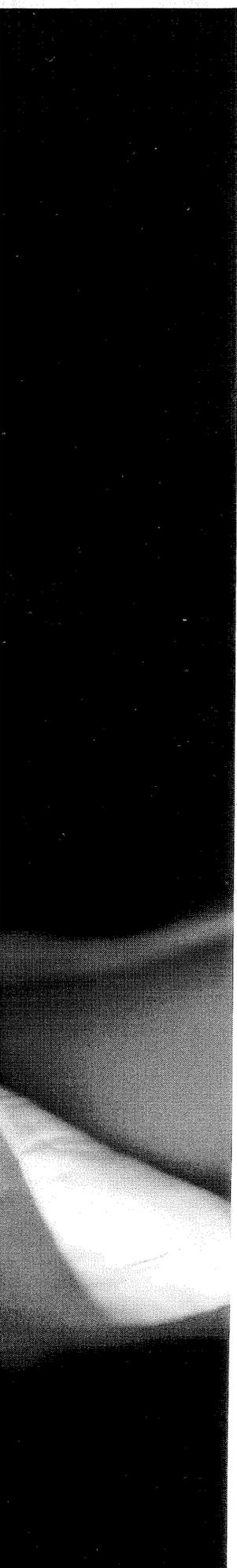
## What is rabies?

Rabies is a disease caused by a virus found in the saliva of infected mammals and is transmitted to pets and humans by bites, or possibly by contamination of an open cut with saliva. Treatment is critical for a person who has been infected by rabies, *because there is no cure.*

Although rabies is decreasing as a human disease because of a better rabies vaccination program for pets and public education about the disease, it is still a disease of significant public health concern.

You must take steps to protect your whole family from this threat.

Last year over 8,000 animals, most of them wild, were diagnosed as having rabies in the United States. Skunks, bats, raccoons, foxes, cats, dogs and some farm animals are most likely to get — and pass — rabies. Rats, mice, squirrels, chipmunks and rabbits are rarely infected. Rabies does not occur in reptiles, amphibians, fish, birds and insects.



Assembly Hearing Slip

(Please print plainly)

Date: May 4, 1997

Bill No. Assembly Bill 232

Or Subject \_\_\_\_\_

Dr. Gilbert Lewis, Chair  
(Name)

440 E. Washington Ave  
(Street Address or Route Number)

MADISON 53703  
(City & Zip Code)

WI VETERINARY EXAMINING BOARD  
(Representing)

Speaking in favor:

Speaking against:

Registering in favor:

(Written Testimony Submitted)  
Registering against:

Speaking for information only:

Neither for nor against:

Please return this slip to a messenger promptly.

Assembly Sergeant at Arms  
Room 411 West  
State Capitol  
Madison, WI 53702

HB 232

Requested Order of Appearance

- ① Rep. Alard
- ② Dr. Bellay
- ③ Gary Johnson (no ship yet)
- ④ Dr. Pollock
- ⑤ Holly Houston
- ⑥ Dr. Peterson
- ⑦ Dr. MacWilliams

Thank you  
WJPMK



Tommy G. Thompson  
Governor

Marlene A. Cummings  
Secretary

1400 E. WASHINGTON AVENUE  
P.O. BOX 8935  
MADISON, WISCONSIN 53708-8935  
(608) 266-2112

**Testimony on Assembly Bill 232  
before the  
Assembly Committee on Agriculture  
Thursday, May 1, 1997, 9:30 a.m.  
417 North , State Capitol  
Madison, Wisconsin**

Good morning, Chairperson Ott and committee members. Thank you for this opportunity to provide written testimony on Assembly Bill 232 relating to sale of rabies vaccine and rabies vaccination of dogs.

The Veterinary Examining Board is a consumer protection board responsible for the oversight of veterinary practice in the State of Wisconsin. To continue this protection it is necessary for the public to know that animals have been properly vaccinated by properly trained individuals namely veterinarians.

Veterinarians by training and education can handle, properly store and administer rabies vaccine. Veterinarians are better able to determine when to administer rabies vaccine.

To provide good immunity rabies vaccine must be given to healthy animals. Veterinarians know that in certain instances rabies vaccine should not be given to specific animals i.e. following exposure to possible rabid animals, animals incubating infectious diseases and while animals are receiving other forms of medication.

Tax collectors must determine if dogs are vaccinated prior to licensing. It is impossible for these people to know if the signature on the vaccination slip is a veterinarian or an unlicensed person as the law now exists. Under current law pharmaceutical companies supply blank vaccination forms and tags with the vaccine. Proper tags which are required by law are not available to unlicensed people.

If rabies vaccine continues to be made available to unlicensed people who do not have the proper education, training and experience like veterinarians do, and our laws allow unlicensed persons to administer the vaccine it will be impossible to know if an animal has been adequately protected from rabies.

Thank you again for this opportunity to comment on AB 232. If you have any questions or need additional information please let us know.

Submitted By: Dr. Gilbert Lewis, Chair, Wisconsin Veterinary Examining Board

Regulatory Boards

Accounting; Architects; Landscape Architects, Professional Geologists, Professional Engineers; Auctioneer; Barbering and Cosmetology; Chiropractic; Dentistry; Dietitians; Funeral Directors; Hearing and Speech; Medical; Nursing; Nursing Home Administrator; Optometry; Pharmacy; Physical Therapists; Psychology; Real Estate; Real Estate Appraisers; Social Workers, Marriage and Family Therapists and Professional Counselors; and Veterinary.