
**Agriculture & Natural Resources
Committee**

HB 2654

Brief Description: Concerning certificates of veterinary inspection for animals brought into the state.

Sponsors: Representatives Blake and Dent; by request of Department of Agriculture.

Brief Summary of Bill

- Removes an exemption from the requirement to obtain a certificate of veterinary inspection for animals transported from out of state to inspected feedlots.

Hearing Date: 1/23/18

Staff: Rebecca Lewis (786-7339).

Background:

The Director of the Washington State Department of Agriculture (WSDA) is authorized to adopt rules that prevent the introduction or spreading of infectious diseases into the state. This includes the authority to adopt rules regarding the inspection and testing of all animals in the state or being imported into the state.

It is unlawful for a person to bring animals into Washington without obtaining a certificate of veterinary inspection, reviewed by the state veterinarian of the state of origin, to verify that an animal meets Washington's animal health requirements. Animals that will be delivered within 12 hours after entry into the state to an approved, inspected feedlot for slaughter, to a federally inspected slaughter plant, or to either of these two locations by way of a licensed public market for sale are not required to be accompanied by a certificate of veterinary inspection. The Director of WSDA has authority to provide other exemptions in rule.

Summary of Bill:

This analysis was prepared by non-partisan legislative staff for the use of legislative members in their deliberations. This analysis is not a part of the legislation nor does it constitute a statement of legislative intent.

The exemption from the requirement to obtain a certificate of veterinary inspection for animals transported to inspected feedlots, either directly or by way of a licensed public market within 12 hours after entry, is removed.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Available.

Effective Date: The bill takes effect 90 days after adjournment of the session in which the bill is passed.