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Miscellaneous Texas Laws Pertaining to Animal Control

Text for the codes included in this manual is available online; refer to the sites listed below for an official copy of a state law for use in a court case or for a law in its entirety.

Statutes are located at <https://statutes.capitol.texas.gov/>.

Texas Administrative Codes (TAC) are located at <https://www.sos.texas.gov/tac/index.shtml>.

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Health and Safety Code **Sections 81.351-353** Animal-borne Diseases
TAC **Chapter 169** Reptile-Associated Salmonellosis

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Agriculture Code **Chapter 142** Estrays

Occupations Code, Chapter 802, Dog or Cat Breeders, was added during the 82nd legislative session (HB 1451) and was effective as of June 17, 2011. This statute, which contains information about licensure of dog or cat breeders as defined in Chapter 802 and designation of third-party inspectors, and its associated rule (Texas Administrative Code, Title 16, Part 4, Chapter 91, Dog or Cat Breeders Program) can be accessed at the sites listed above or <https://www.tdlr.texas.gov/bre/laws-rules.htm> or by contacting the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation at <https://www.tdlr.texas.gov/> (click on “Regulated Industries” and then “Licensed Breeders”).

Side note: during the 78th (2003) legislative session, House Bill 2292 amended Chapter 531 of the Government Code to include a name change of the Texas Department of Health (and its various terminology) to the Department of State Health Services (and its various terminology). Texas laws went through an extended transition period; amendments to reflect any remaining changes that needed to be incorporated were integrated via SB 219 during the 84th (2015) legislative session.