

47-1709. Inspections and investigations; confidentiality of complaints; records of inspections; training of inspectors and owners of pet animal facilities; search warrant if access denied. (a) The commissioner or the commissioner's authorized, trained representatives shall make an inspection of the premises for which an application for an original license or permit is made under K.S.A. 47-1701 et seq., and amendments thereto, before issuance of such license or permit. No license or permit shall be issued by the commissioner to an applicant described in this subsection until the premises for which application is made has passed a licensing or permitting inspection. The application for a license shall conclusively be deemed to be the consent of the applicant to the right of entry and inspection of the premises sought to be licensed or permitted by the commissioner or the commissioner's authorized, trained representatives at reasonable times with the owner or owner's representative present. Refusal of such entry and inspection shall be grounds for denial of the license or permit. Notice need not be given to any person prior to inspection.

(b) The commissioner or the commissioner's authorized, trained representatives may inspect each premises for which a license or permit has been issued under K.S.A. 47-1701 et seq., and amendments thereto. The acceptance of a license or permit shall conclusively be deemed to be the consent of the licensee or permittee to the right of entry and inspection of the licensed or permitted premises by the commissioner or the commissioner's authorized, trained representatives at reasonable times with the owner or owner's representative present. Refusal of such entry and inspection shall be grounds for suspension or revocation of the license or permit. Notice need not be given to any person prior to inspection.

(c) The commissioner or the commissioner's authorized, trained representatives shall make inspections of the premises of a person required to be licensed or permitted under K.S.A. 47-1701 et seq., and amendments thereto, upon a determination by the commissioner that there are reasonable grounds to believe that the person is violating the provisions of K.S.A. 47-1701 et seq., and amendments thereto, or rules and regulations adopted thereunder or that there are grounds for suspension or revocation of such person's license or permit.

(d) Any complaint filed with the commissioner shall be confidential and shall not be released to any person other than employees of the commissioner as necessary to carry out the duties of their employment.

(e) Any person making inspections under this section shall be trained by the commissioner in reasonable standards of animal care.

(f) The commissioner may request a licensed veterinarian to assist in any inspection or investigation made by the commissioner or the commissioner's authorized representative under this section.

(g) Any person acting as the commissioner's authorized representative for purposes of making inspections and conducting investigations under this section who knowingly falsifies the results or findings of any inspection or investigation or intentionally fails or refuses to make an inspection or conduct an investigation pursuant to this section shall be guilty of a class A nonperson misdemeanor.

(h) No person shall act as the commissioner's authorized representative for the purposes of making inspections and conducting investigations under this section if such person has a beneficial interest in a person required to be licensed or permitted pursuant to K.S.A. 47-1701 et seq., and amendments thereto.

(i) Records of inspections pursuant to this section shall be maintained in the office of the Kansas department of agriculture division of animal health. Records of a deficiency or violation shall not be maintained for longer than three years after the deficiency or violation is remedied.

(j) The commissioner, in consultation with Kansas state university college of veterinary medicine, shall: (1) Continue procedures to provide for pet animal training or updated training for authorized trained representatives who inspect premises under the pet animal act and to allow the owners of such facilities licensed or permitted under the pet animal act to attend and participate at the training workshops for the authorized trained representatives; and (2) make available to such owners and other interested persons an inspection handbook describing the duties and responsibilities of such authorized trained representatives.

(k) If the commissioner or the commissioner's authorized representative is denied access to any location where such access is sought for the purposes authorized under the Kansas pet animal act, the commissioner may apply to any court of competent jurisdiction for an administrative search warrant authorizing access to such location for such purposes. Upon such application and a showing of cause therefore, the court shall issue the search warrant for the purposes requested.

History: L. 1972, ch. 201, § 9; L. 1988, ch. 189, § 9; L. 1991, ch. 152, § 31; L. 1996, ch. 151, § 12; L. 2005, ch. 190, § 3; L. 2012, ch. 125, § 29; July 1.

Section was amended twice in the 2012 session, see also 47-1709a.