

AN ACT

relating to conditions of community supervision for defendants convicted of certain criminal offenses involving animals; authorizing fees.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Article 42A.511, Code of Criminal Procedure, is amended to read as follows:

Art. 42A.511. COMMUNITY SUPERVISION FOR CERTAIN OFFENSES INVOLVING ANIMALS. (a) If a judge grants community supervision to a defendant convicted of an offense under Section 42.09, 42.091, 42.092, or 42.10, Penal Code, the judge may require the defendant to:

(1) complete an online responsible pet owner course approved and certified by the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation; or

(2) attend a responsible pet owner course sponsored by a municipal animal shelter, as defined by Section 823.001, Health and Safety Code, that:

(A) [~~(1)~~] receives federal, state, county, or municipal funds; and

(B) [~~(2)~~] serves the county in which the court is located.

(b) For purposes of the online responsible pet owner course described by Subsection (a)(1), the Texas Department of Licensing

1 and Regulation or the Texas Commission of Licensing and Regulation,
2 as appropriate:

3 (1) is responsible for the approval, certification,
4 and administration of the course and course providers;

5 (2) may charge fees for:

6 (A) initial and renewal course certifications;

7 (B) initial and renewal course provider
8 certifications;

9 (C) course participant completion certificates;

10 and

11 (D) other fees necessary for the administration
12 of the course and course providers;

13 (3) shall adopt rules regarding the administration of
14 the course and course providers, including rules regarding:

15 (A) the criteria for course approval and
16 certification;

17 (B) the criteria for course provider approval and
18 certification;

19 (C) curriculum development;

20 (D) course length and content;

21 (E) criteria for a participant to complete the
22 course; and

23 (F) a course completion certificate that is
24 acceptable to a court;

25 (4) is authorized to monitor and audit the provision
26 of the course by the course providers; and

27 (5) may take enforcement actions as appropriate to

1 enforce this subsection.

2 SECTION 2. Not later than March 1, 2018, the Texas
3 Department of Licensing and Regulation or the Texas Commission of
4 Licensing and Regulation, as appropriate, shall adopt rules to
5 implement Article [42A.511](#), Code of Criminal Procedure, as amended
6 by this Act.

7 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2017.

President of the Senate

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 162 was passed by the House on May 11, 2017, by the following vote: Yeas 127, Nays 18, 2 present, not voting.

Chief Clerk of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 162 was passed by the Senate on May 24, 2017, by the following vote: Yeas 29, Nays 2.

Secretary of the Senate

APPROVED: _____

Date

Governor