



## CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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Department of Regulatory Services

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July 1, 2024

To Connecticut Licensed Veterinarians,

Pertaining to the matter of rabies vaccination exemption applications, I am reaching out to Connecticut veterinarians. As the interim state veterinarian, my transition into this role demands that I triage my duties so that critical matters of public health are prioritized. As such, the significant number of outstanding rabies exemption applications will face delays. I expect patience from practitioners, and I trust that you understand the need to resolve more urgent matters before processing exemptions.

Renewal applications and new applications received prior to June 2024 will be processed within the next three weeks. New application requests will be heard within the next four weeks. Renewal applications and new applications received during the month of June 2024, will be processed within the next six to eight weeks. Please be advised that an additional delay can be anticipated as our new, permanent state veterinarian enters the role.

To ensure that your client's application does not face additional setbacks, I recommend you only submit exemption applications with relevant supporting documentation. For further guidance, review the specific language of the statute below:

***Sec. 22-339b. The State Veterinarian or the Commissioner of Agriculture, or the commissioner's designee, may grant an exemption from vaccination against rabies for a dog or cat if a licensed veterinarian has examined such animal and determined that a rabies vaccination would endanger the animal's life due to disease or other medical considerations.***

If you are unable to provide documentation based on the above criteria, it will cause your application to be further delayed, or declined.

Sincerely,

Erin Masur, DVM  
Interim State Veterinarian  
CT Dept. of Agriculture  
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