RULE SUMMARIES

CHAPTER 515. COMMUNICABLE DISEASE AND INJURY REPORTING

This change adds the requirement for COVID-19 specimens to be submitted to the OSDH Public Health Laboratory for variant testing.

CHAPTER 517. NOVEL CORONAVIRUS REGULATIONS [REVOKED]

The revocation of this rule will remove COVID-19 reporting requirements as a separate rule. Reporting requirements remain in the Department's communicable disease reporting requirements.

CHAPTER 599. ZOONOTIC DISEASE CONTROL

These amendments and additions clarify language to better support county health departments, local law enforcement, animal control, veterinarians and OSDH when making decisions regarding quarantine and/or euthanasia of animals exposed to rabies or in animals involved in a bite to a human. These changes also clarify alternatives for animal owners after exposure to rabies. This amendment defines "booster vaccine" and adds a new section to define "verifiable rabies vaccine" for dogs, cats, and ferrets. The amendment removes specific language referencing the Public Health Laboratory Rabies contact information, and references only a designated rabies laboratory testing facility. This amendment clarifies the circumstances in which prospective serologic monitoring may occur in animals exposed to rabies. The amendment updates time frames veterinarians must keep record of rabies vaccination in accordance with other states and vaccinations. It also clarifies and creates consistent wording with time frames.

CHAPTER 642. EMERGENCY RESPONSE SYSTEMS STABILIZATION AND IMPROVEMENT REVOLVING FUND.

Senate Joint Resolution (SJR) 22 revoked OAC 310:642-5-1(2) (H) and (I), which were part of the formula used to calculate awards granted under Chapter 642. References to the revoked subparagraphs (H) and (I) were inadvertently left in the immediately preceding subparagraph. The proposed language is an amendment to OAC 310:642-5-1(1), which removes the remaining references to (H) and (I) and conforms the section to the current descriptions.

CHAPTER 679. LONG TERM CARE ADMINISTRATORS

HB 2824 directed the transfer of employees, powers, duties, monies, contractual rights and certain administrative rules from the Oklahoma State Board of Examiners for Long Term Care Administrators (Board) to the Oklahoma State Department of Health (Department) effective November 1, 2023. The legislation abolishes the Board and transfers the Board's duties and authority to the Commissioner of Health and the Department. These proposed permanent rules will replace emergency rules and are necessary to ensure the uninterrupted licensure of long-term care administrators by the Department. The proposed rule amendments remove the references to the Board and its authority and replace it throughout with the designation of the Commissioner of Health and the Department as the authority for the licensure of long-term care administrators. Revisions to the licensure rules also reflect statutory amendments to the licensure process for long term care administrators contained in 63 O.S. §§ 1-1949 et seq., the Long-Term Care Administrator Licensing Act, and 63 O.S. §§ 330.51 et seq., Nursing Home Administrators. The categories for licensure in the rules have been amended to reflect the "Tier 1" and "Tier 2" designations in the legislation. Licensure requirements, including minimum education requirements, training and continuing education have been aligned with the designation of the long-term care administrator as Tier 1 or Tier 2.