

Health Services

Cap. 44.

**HEALTH SERVICES (RODENT CONTROL)
REGULATIONS, 1969**

S.I. 1969/180.
1978/111.

Made by the Minister under section 10 of the Health Services Act. Cap. 44.

1. These Regulations may be cited as the Health Services (Rodent Control) Regulations, 1969.

2. For the purposes of these regulations—

“business premises” means any structure, whether in private or public ownership, that is adapted for occupancy for transaction of business or for display, sale or storage of goods, wares or merchandise, and includes abattoirs, bakeries, bars, boarding-houses, dairies, food or provision shops, groceries, hostels, guest-houses, hotels, markets, restaurants, shops, stores, supermarkets, warehouses, and all barns, out-houses, paddocks, sheds and other structures on premises used for business purposes;

“institution” means any structure whether in private or public ownership, to which persons are admitted for physical or mental care or for instruction or for detention under any process of law and in which food is prepared or served, and includes hospitals, infirmaries, maternity homes, nursing homes, prisons and schools, and all sheds and out-houses on the premises of any such institution;

“occupier” means the individual, partnership or corporation that uses, occupies or manages any business premises or institution or part thereof, whether as owner or tenant;

“owner” means the actual owner, the agent or the custodian of any business premises or institution, whether such premises or institution be in use or vacant, and means the lessee when by the term of any agreement the lessee is held responsible for maintenance and repairs of the building or institution;

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- “ premises ” has the meaning assigned to it in section 10 (2) of the Health Services Act;
- “ rat eradication ” means the elimination or extermination of rodents by any or all of the accepted measures such as poisoning, fumigation, trapping and rat-proofing;
- “ harbourage ” means any condition in, under or outside of any structure which provides shelter or protection for rodents, thus favouring their multiplication or continual existence in, under or outside of any structure;
- “ rat-proofing ” means a form of construction intended to prevent the ingress of rodents into any business premises or institution from the exterior or from any such premises or institution to another, and shall consist essentially of treatment with material impervious to rodent gnawing of all actual or potential openings in exterior walls, ground-floors, roofs and foundations that may be reached by rodents by climbing or by burrowing;
- “ rodents ” includes rats and mice.

3. The owner of every business premises or institution shall maintain such premises or institution in a rat-proofed and rodent-free condition to the satisfaction of the Medical Officer of Health.

4. A Medical Officer of Health may by notice in writing require the owner of any business premises or institution to take measures for rat-proofing the premises or institution within such time, not being less than thirty days, as may be specified in the notice.

5. The Senior Medical Officer of Health may in his discretion extend the time specified in any notice given in accordance with regulation 4, but any such extension shall not exceed thirty days except with the approval of the Chief Medical Officer.

6. A Public Health Inspector may by notice in writing require the occupier of any business premises or institution to undertake rat-eradication measures in any such premises or institution where there is evidence of rodent infestation.

7. The owner of any business premises or institution who receives a notice in accordance with regulation 4 shall take immediate measures to comply with the notice within the time specified therein or within the time to which an extension may have been granted by the Senior Medical Officer of Health or by the Chief Medical Officer.

8. The occupier of any business premises or institution who receives a notice in accordance with regulation 6 shall within ten days of the receipt of such notice institute rat-eradication measures and shall continuously maintain such measures to the satisfaction of the Medical Officer of Health until such time as the building or institution is declared by the Medical Officer of Health to be free of rodent infestation.

9. Where, after due notice has been served in accordance with regulation 4 or regulation 6, any occupied business premises or institution provides in the opinion of the Medical Officer of Health extensive harbourage for rodents, the Minister may close such premises or institution until such time as the Medical Officer of Health declares conditions to have been abated by rat-proofing or rat-extermination.

10. Every person having in his possession or under his control any food for feeding poultry, cows, pigs, horses or other animals shall, unless such food is stored in a rat-proofed building, store such food in rat-proofed containers, compartments or rooms.

11. No person shall place, leave or dump any waste animal or vegetable matter or any dead animal or any garbage, rubbish or trash in or on any occupied or unoccupied premises or on any vacant lot or on any lane, alley, road, street or highway.

12. Any person failing to comply with these regulations or with any notice served thereunder shall be guilty of an offence and on summary conviction shall be liable to a fine of five thousand dollars or to imprisonment for twelve months or to both such fine and imprisonment, and in addition in the case of a continuing offence to a fine of two hundred dollars for each day the offence continues after a conviction is first obtained.

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