
DIGEST

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HB 454 Engrossed

2019 Regular Session

Zeringue

Abstract: Establishes notification requirements for animal shelters selling dead animals for research and prohibits the shelters from selling or giving live animals to facilities for research.

Present law establishes minimum requirements for animal shelters, including restrictions on euthanasia.

Proposed law defines "animal dealer", "biological supply facility", and "research facility".

Proposed law adds additional requirements for animal shelters that sell dead animals to facilities for research purposes to notify persons turning over animals by posting a conspicuous sign in the shelter and including the notification on owner surrender forms.

Proposed law prohibits an animal shelter from euthanizing an animal for the sole purpose of transferring the carcass for research.

Proposed law prohibits an animal shelter or other person that accepts animals from the public or takes in stray or unwanted animals from selling, giving, or transferring a living animal to a research facility, biological supply facility, animal dealer, or other person for the purpose of research or experimentation, except for instructional purposes.

Proposed law allows living animals to be transferred for the purpose of necessary spay and neuter surgeries.

Proposed law authorizes a research facility to work with an animal shelter to investigate problems and provide services to shelter animals.

Proposed law specifies that any person who violates proposed law will be fined not more than \$1,000 for each separate act of violation.

(Amends R.S. 3:2462; Adds R.S. 3:2466)

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Agriculture, Forestry, Aquaculture, and Rural Development to the original bill:

1. Modify the definition of "research facility" to remove the reference to tests.
2. Modify the required notification statement to indicate that euthanized animals may be used for educational purposes.
3. Clarify that an animal shelter or other person can transfer a living animal for instructional purposes.