

**HOUSE SUMMARY OF SENATE AMENDMENTS****HB 454****2019 Regular Session****Zeringue**

ANIMALS: Provides relative to animal shelters

**Synopsis of Senate Amendments**

1. Modifies the definition of "research facility" to remove the word "live".
2. Changes the notification requirement from applying to animal shelters turning over dead animals to animal shelters turning over any animals.
3. Adds that animal shelters that have exhausted reasonable efforts to place the animal in a suitable environment outside the shelter cannot turn over a living animal for research or experiment.
4. Allows turning over live animals for certain instructional and research purposes.
5. Requires efforts to be made to return living animals to the originating facility at the conclusion of research or instruction and to minimize pain of the animals.
6. Makes a technical change.

**Digest of Bill as Finally Passed by Senate**

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 turn over 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, and has exhausted reasonable efforts to place the animal in a suitable environment outside of the shelter 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.

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

Proposed law allows living animals to be given or transferred for the following reasons:

- (1) Instructional purposes.
- (2) Research as part of clinical trials using drugs or treatments approved by the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture or the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.
- (3) Research deemed non-invasive by the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee.

Proposed law specifies that when possible, living animals must be returned to the originating

facility at the conclusion of research or instruction.

Proposed law requires every precaution be taken to minimize the pain to the animal.

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.

#### Summary of Amendments Adopted by Senate

Committee Amendments Proposed by Senate Committee on Agriculture, Forestry, Aquaculture, and Rural Development to the engrossed bill

1. Removes provision prohibiting animal shelters from transferring live animals for the purpose of research or experiments.
2. Removes provision allowing live animals to be transferred for the purpose of necessary spay and neuter surgeries.
3. Provides for technical corrections.