

RÉSUMÉ DIGEST

ACT 383 (HB 454)

2019 Regular Session

Zeringue

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

New law adds definitions for "animal dealer", "biological supply facility", and "research facility".

New law adds a requirement for animal shelters that turn over euthanized animals to facilities for educational or research purposes to notify persons turning over animals by posting a conspicuous sign in the shelter and including the notification on owner surrender forms.

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

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

New law allows an animal shelter or other person to give or transfer a living animal for instruction or research only if the following criteria are met:

- (1) Reasonable efforts to place the animal in a suitable environment outside of the shelter have been exhausted.
- (2) The animal is being given or transferred for instructional purposes, including necessary spay and neuter surgeries, 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, or research deemed non-invasive by the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee.
- (3) When possible, the living animal is returned to its originating facility at the conclusion of research or instruction.
- (4) Every precaution has been taken to minimize pain to the animal.

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

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

Effective Aug. 1, 2019.

(Amends R.S. 3:3462; Adds R.S. 3:2466)