2019 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 454

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BY REPRESENTATIVES ZERINGUE, BISHOP, HOWARD, JONES, NANCY LANDRY, AND MCMAHEN

AN ACT

2	To amend and reenact R.S. 3:2462 and to enact R.S. 3:2466, relative to euthanasia of
3	animals for research or biological supply; to provide for definitions; to require
4	notification to owners surrendering animals; to prohibit animal shelters from
5	euthanizing animals for research purposes only; to provide for the transfer of live
6	animals in certain circumstances; to provide for penalties; and to provide for related
7	matters.
8	Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:
9	Section 1. R.S. 3:2462 is hereby amended and reenacted and R.S. 3:2466 is hereby
10	enacted to read as follows:
11	§2462. Definitions
12	As used in this Part, the following words shall have the following meanings
13	ascribed to them:
14	(1) "Animal dealer" means a person who receives payment for the
15	transportation or delivery for transportation of any living or dead animal or who
16	buys, sells, or negotiates the purchase or sale of any living or dead animal for
17	research, teaching, exhibition, or biological supply.
18	(1)(2) "Animal shelter" means any building, structure, site, enclosure, or
19	other facility used or operated for the housing or keeping of any stray, homeless,
20	abandoned, or unwanted animals including any facility designated by the parish
21	governing authority; for the keeping or housing of any impounded animals.

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1	(3) "Biological supply facility" means any blood bank, laboratory, firm,
2	association, corporation, copartnership, or educational institution that sells biological
3	materials, including blood or living or dead animals, to research facilities,
4	educational institutions, or veterinarians.
5	(2)(4) "Cruelty" means every act or failure to act whereby unjustifiable
6	physical pain or suffering is caused or permitted.
7	(3)(5) "Euthanasia" or "euthanize" means the act of inducing a painless death
8	upon an animal in a humane manner.
9	(4)(6) "Person" means an individual, corporation, or association.
10	(5)(7) "Primary enclosure" means any structure used to immediately restrict
11	an animal or animals to a limited amount of space, such as a room, pen, run, cage,
12	compartment, or hutch.
13	(8) "Research facility" means any school, institution, organization, or person
14	that uses or intends to use animals in research or experiments.
15	(6)(9) "Social media account" means an internet-based service that allows
16	individuals to do the following:
17	(a) Construct a public or semi-public profile within a bounded system
18	created by the service.
19	(b) Create a list of other users with whom they share a connection within the
20	system.
21	(c) View and navigate their list of connections and those made by others
22	within the system.
23	* * *
24	§2466. Euthanasia of animals for research or biological supply
25	A.(1) An animal shelter that turns over euthanized animals to a research
26	facility or biological supply facility shall post and maintain a sign in a place where
27	it is clearly visible to all persons turning animals over to the shelter. The sign shall
28	contain the following statement: "Animals Euthanized at This Shelter May Be Used
29	for Educational or Research Purposes or to Supply Blood, Tissue, or Other
30	Biological Products".

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1	(2) The statement shall also be included on owner surrender forms in a size
2	and style of font designed to be clearly visible to the owner.
3	B. No animal shelter or other person that accepts animals from the public or
4	takes in stray or unwanted animals shall euthanize an animal for the sole purpose of
5	transferring the carcass to a research facility, biological supply facility, or animal
6	dealer.
7	C. No animal shelter or other person that accepts animals from the public or
8	takes in stray or unwanted animals shall sell a living animal to a research facility,
9	biological supply facility, animal dealer, or other person for the purpose of research
10	or experimentation.
11	D. An animal shelter or other person that accepts animals from the public or
12	takes in stray or unwanted animals may give or transfer a living animal for the
13	purpose of research or instruction only if:
14	(1) Reasonable efforts to place the animal in a suitable environment outside
15	of the shelter have been exhausted.
16	(2) The animal is being given or transferred for one of the following
17	reasons:
18	(a) Instructional purposes, including necessary spay or neuter surgeries.
19	(b) Research as part of a clinical trial using drugs or treatments already
20	approved by the United States Department of Agriculture or United States Food and
21	Drug Administration.
22	(c) Research determined by the Institutional Animal Care and Use
23	Committee to be deemed non-invasive.
24	(3) When possible, the living animal is returned to its originating facility at
25	the conclusion of the research or instruction.
26	(4) Every precaution has been taken to minimize pain to the animal.
27	E. Nothing in this Section shall prohibit a research facility from working in
28	collaboration with an animal shelter to investigate problems and provide services to
29	shelter animals.

1	F. Whoever violates the provisions of this Section shall be fined not more		
2	than one thousand dollars for each separate act of violation.		
	SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES		
	PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE		
	GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA		

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APPROVED: _____