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**HOUSE COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS**

2026 Regular Session

Amendments proposed by House Committee on Agriculture, Forestry, Aquaculture, and Rural Development to Original House Bill No. 834 by Representative McMahan

AMENDMENT NO. 1

On page 1, line 6, after "animals;" and before "and to" insert "to provide for the powers, authority, and discretion of local governmental subdivisions regarding animal control and shelter operations; to promote humane treatment of animals; to provide for limitations and liability;"

AMENDMENT NO. 2

On page 1, line 12, after "Any" and before "subdivision" delete "political" and insert "local governmental"

AMENDMENT NO. 3

On page 1, line 14, after "within" delete the remainder of the line and insert "its respective jurisdiction."

AMENDMENT NO. 4

On page 1, at the end of line 15, delete "political" and insert "local governmental"

AMENDMENT NO. 5

On page 1, line 16, after "subdivision" delete the remainder of the line and insert a comma ";" and "private entity, nonprofit organization, licensed veterinarian, or any other entity reasonably"

AMENDMENT NO. 6

On page 1, between lines 17 and 18, insert the following:

"(3) A designated shelter shall comply with applicable state and local laws pertaining to animal shelters.

(4) A local governmental subdivision shall retain full discretion to:

(a) Select, contract with, or operate a shelter.

(b) Determine the scope of services provided.

(c) Enter into cooperative agreements with other local governmental subdivisions.

(d) Adopt local standards or ordinances that meet or exceed the requirements of this Section.

(e) Establish longer holding periods by local ordinance.

(f) Revoke the designation."

AMENDMENT NO. 7

On page 1, line 18, after "B." and before "A designated" insert "(1)" and after "acquire" and before "ownership" insert "sole"

AMENDMENT NO. 8

On page 1, delete line 19 in its entirety and insert "unowned, or at-large animal only after compliance"

1 AMENDMENT NO. 92 On page 2, line 1, delete "(1) The designated animal shelter shall comply"3 AMENDMENT NO. 104 On page 2, line 4, after "shall be" delete the remainder of the line and insert "three days,  
5 excluding legal public holidays, to allow for owner identification and recovery."6 AMENDMENT NO. 117 On page 2, line 5, after "shelter" and before "all" change "does" to "shall do"8 AMENDMENT NO. 129 On page 2, line 8, after "tags" delete the remainder of the line, at the beginning of line 9,  
10 delete "times", and insert "or any other registration information at least twice"11 AMENDMENT NO. 1312 On page 2, at the beginning of line 14, delete "seventy-two hours" and insert "three days,  
13 exclusive of legal public holidays."14 AMENDMENT NO. 1415 On page 2, line 20, after "shall" and before "the animal" change "relinquish" to "return"16 AMENDMENT NO. 1517 On page 2, line 21, after "unless" and before "the" delete "and until" and after "hold period"  
18 and before "and the" delete "is complete" and insert "has expired"19 AMENDMENT NO. 1620 On page 2, line 22, after "animal" and before the period ":" delete "to the foster"21 AMENDMENT NO. 1722 On page 2, line 23, after "with" and before "written" insert "a"23 AMENDMENT NO. 1824 On page 2, line 24, after "available" and before "persons" delete "at the shelter at all times  
25 and allow" and insert "for public viewing and allows"26 AMENDMENT NO. 1927 On page 2, line 25, after "and" and before "records" insert "related"28 AMENDMENT NO. 2029 On page 2, at the beginning of line 28, delete "to notify" and insert "to identify, notify," and  
30 after "owner, the" and before "shelter" insert "local governmental subdivision or designated"31 AMENDMENT NO. 2132 On page 2, line 29, after "ownership to" delete the remainder of the line and insert "another  
33 person, whether natural or juridical, consistent with applicable law. The designated animal  
34 shelter may place an animal with or transfer ownership to a rescue organization."

1 AMENDMENT NO. 22

2 On page 3, line 2, after "person" and before "the shelter" delete "or entity,"and insert a  
3 comma "₂" and "natural or juridical,"

4 AMENDMENT NO. 23

5 On page 3, delete lines 6 though 14 in their entirety and insert the following:

6 "D. Nothing in this Section shall be construed to:

7 (1) Require a local governmental subdivision to designate an animal shelter.

8 (2) Alter or impair existing laws, regulations, or ordinances in place that  
9 authorize a shelter to acquire immediate ownership of an animal by abandonment,  
10 transfer, relinquishment, or any other lawful means.

11 (3) Create a statewide regulatory licensing scheme for animal shelters.

12 (4) Increase the financial burden of local governmental subdivisions.

13 E. No local governmental subdivision or designated animal shelter, or any  
14 officer or employee thereof, shall be subject to civil damages arising from actions  
15 taken in good faith in compliance with this Section, except for acts or omissions  
16 constituting gross negligence or willful or wanton misconduct.

17 F. This Section shall be construed to promote humane treatment of animals,  
18 preserve local governmental flexibility, and avoid unnecessary regulatory burden."

CODING: Words in ~~struck through~~ type are deletions from existing law; words underscored are additions.