SLS 21RS-2624 **ORIGINAL** 

2021 Regular Session

1

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 125

BY SENATOR JACKSON

ANIMALS. Requests local governing authorities and animal shelters to adopt policies and programs to provide alternatives to euthanizing healthy dogs and cats.

A RESOLUTION

2	To urge and request local governing authorities and animal shelters of the state to adopt
3	policies and programs prior to December 31, 2025, which provide alternatives to
4	euthanizing healthy dogs and cats.
5	WHEREAS, safe and humane communities for the citizens and pets of Louisiana is
6	a universal goal; and
7	WHEREAS, according to the Best Friends Animal Society, Louisiana ranks fifth in
8	the number of dogs and cats euthanized in the nation; and
9	WHEREAS, Louisiana has the second highest euthanasia rate of dogs and cats per
10	capita of 7.09 per one thousand population versus the national rate of 1.90 per one thousand;
11	and
12	WHEREAS, the total number of deaths of dogs and cats in 2019 was forty-four
13	thousand four hundred fifty-eight; and
14	WHEREAS, thirty-nine percent of the dogs and cats that enter Louisiana shelters do
15	not make it out alive; and
16	WHEREAS, many of the pets that are euthanized each year are healthy or treatable
17	pets that could be placed in homes or feral cats that could be trapped, neutered, and released;
18	and

SLS 21RS-2624 ORIGINAL SR NO. 125

1	WHEREAS, a national survey conducted for the Best Friends Animal Society
2	revealed that almost seventy percent of citizens do not want cats impounded and euthanized;
3	and
4	WHEREAS, many Louisiana shelters are implementing new and innovative
5	programs and policies to provide alternatives to euthanizing dogs and cats; and
6	WHEREAS, these policies and programs include volunteer foster care networks,
7	adoption programs; medical and behavioral programs; public education and awareness
8	programs; feral cat trap, neuter, vaccinate, and return programs; animal socialization
9	programs; and many others; and
10	WHEREAS, the Best Friends Animal Society has introduced a humane initiative to
11	end the euthanization of dogs and cats in shelters in the United States by 2025.
12	THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana
3	does hereby urge and request the local governing authorities and animal shelters of the state
4	to adopt policies and programs prior to December 31, 2025, which provide alternatives to
5	euthanizing healthy dogs and cats.
6	BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the
7	Louisiana Animal Control Advisory Task Force and the Best Friends Animal Society.
	The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Jerry J. Guillot.

DIGEST 2021 Regular Session

SR 125 Original

Jackson

Requests local governing authorities and animal shelters to adopt policies and programs prior to Dec. 31, 2025, which provide alternatives to euthanizing healthy dogs and cats.