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LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate	.	House
Comm: RCS	.	
03/18/2013	.	
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The Committee on Agriculture (Sachs) recommended the following:

Senate Amendment (with title amendment)

Delete everything after the enacting clause
and insert:

Section 1. This act may be cited as the "Transparency in
Animal Shelter Act".

Section 2. Section 823.17 Florida Statutes is created to
read:

823.17 Uniform reporting requirements for animal shelters
and animal control agencies.

(1) The Legislature finds that additional efforts must be
made to find homes for homeless and unwanted animals in an
effort to reduce or eliminate the euthanasia of adoptable dogs



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14 and cats. To that end, the Legislature finds that defining the
15 problem and assessing programs both require statistical
16 measurement.

17 (2) In furtherance of this policy, provision shall be made
18 for the uniform reporting of statistics related to dogs and cats
19 taken in and the ultimate disposition of the animal. Each animal
20 shelter whether public or private, including all animal control
21 agencies of a county, municipality, or other incorporated
22 political subdivision that euthanizes animals according to s.
23 828.058 shall prepare and maintain the following records on a
24 monthly and annual basis, using the calendar year, and make the
25 reports available for public inspection and dissemination no
26 later than 5 business days after the end of the each calendar
27 month:

28 (a) The total number dogs and cats taken in by the animal
29 shelter and animal control agency, divided by dogs and cats, or
30 others in the following categories:

31 1. Starting inventory/shelter count on the first day of the
32 month;

33 2. Stray/At-large;

34 3. Confiscated/Involuntarily taken;

35 4. Relinquished by owner;

36 5. Born in shelter;

37 6. Owner requested euthanasia;

38 7. Transferred in or imported from within the state; and

39 8. Transferred in or imported from out of the state.

40 (b) The disposition of all animals taken into the animal
41 shelter or animal control agency, divided by dogs and cats in
42 the following categories:



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- 43 1. Adopted;
- 44 2. Returned to owner;
- 45 3. Transferred out or exported within the state;
- 46 4. Transferred out or exported to another state;
- 47 5. Released in field/TNR;
- 48 6. Shelter euthanasia;
- 49 7. Owner requested euthanasia;
- 50 8. Died in care/other deaths not shown as shelter or owner
- 51 requested euthanasia;
- 52 9. Lost in care/Missing animals or records; and
- 53 10. Ending inventory/shelter count at the end of the last
- 54 day of the month.

55 (3) Each animal shelter and animal control agency shall
56 post these statistics online on the animal shelter, county,
57 municipality, or other governmental website that controls the
58 animal shelter and that is accessible to the general public
59 within 5 business days after the first day of each month, in
60 accordance with the state's requirements on the accessibility of
61 public records, as well as make the records available in hard
62 copy as defined in s. 119.07.

63 (4) The director of the animal shelter or animal control
64 agency shall sign each report indicating the report is true and
65 accurate to the best of his or her knowledge.

66 Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2013.

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68 ===== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =====

69 And the title is amended as follows:

70 Delete everything before the enacting clause
71 and insert:



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A bill to be entitled
An act relating to animal shelters and animal control agencies; providing a short title; creating s. 823.17, F.S.; providing legislative findings; requiring each animal shelter and animal control agency to compile monthly and annual summaries of statistical data; listing the categories of information required in the summaries; requiring the summaries be posted on the entity's website within a specified time period; requiring each summary to be signed by the director of the animal shelter or animal control agency as true and accurate; providing an effective date.