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LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate

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House

The Committee on Agriculture (Book) recommended the following:

Senate Amendment (with title amendment)

Before line 15

insert:

Section 1. This act may be cited as the "Promoting Ethical Treatment Act" or "PET Act."

Section 2. Section 828.52, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

828.52 Adoption of research animals.—

(1) As used in this section, the term:

(a) "Animal rescue organization" means a nonprofit



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12 charitable organization established primarily to rescue animals
13 and find adoptive homes for the animals.

14 (b) "Animal shelter" means a facility operated by a
15 nonprofit charitable organization established primarily to
16 shelter and care for stray, homeless, abandoned, or unwanted
17 animals and find adoptive homes for the animals.

18 (c) "Department" means the Department of Agriculture and
19 Consumer Services.

20 (d) "Research facility" means a facility as defined in the
21 Animal Welfare Act, 7 U.S.C. s. 2132, that is licensed by or
22 registered with the United States Department of Agriculture to
23 conduct experiments on cats or dogs for education, research,
24 science, or testing purposes.

25 (e) "Retired animal" means a cat or dog used by a research
26 facility in experiments conducted for education, research,
27 science, or testing purposes which is no longer needed for such
28 purposes.

29 (2) (a) A research facility or its authorized employee or an
30 authorized student of an institution of higher education
31 associated with the research facility shall offer a retired
32 animal for adoption through an animal rescue organization or
33 animal shelter or to an individual through an arrangement
34 between the facility and the individual.

35 (b) A research facility may not offer a retired animal for
36 adoption through an animal rescue organization or animal shelter
37 unless the facility has a written agreement with the
38 organization or shelter for the transfer of the facility's
39 retired animals to the organization or shelter.

40 (c) A research facility that offers a retired animal for



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41 adoption through an animal rescue organization or animal shelter
42 or to an individual in good faith and in compliance with this
43 section and rules adopted pursuant to this section is held
44 immune from civil liability for the transfer of the retired
45 animal to the organization, shelter, or individual or for the
46 adoption of the retired animal by an individual through the
47 organization or shelter.

48 (3) This section does not apply to a retired animal with a
49 substantial medical condition that prevents the animal from
50 successfully integrating into an adoptive home.

51 (4) The department shall adopt rules to administer this
52 section.

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

55 And the title is amended as follows:

56 Delete line 2

57 and insert:

58 An act relating to the ethical treatment of animals;
59 providing a short title; creating s. 828.52, F.S.;
60 defining terms; requiring specified research
61 facilities to offer retired research animals for
62 adoption; providing requirements for such adoption;
63 providing immunity from civil liability for such
64 facilities; providing applicability; directing the
65 Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services to
66 adopt rules; creating s.