

1 SB172
2 126509-2
3 By Senators Marsh, Dial, Allen, Williams, Taylor, Scofield,
4 Smith, Sanford, McGill, Waggoner, Orr, Irons, Beasley,
5 Fielding, Singleton, Reed, Blackwell, Ward, Bussman, Brooks,
6 Holtzclaw, Smitherman, Bedford, Brewbaker and Beason
7 RFD: Judiciary
8 First Read: 08-MAR-11

1 SB172

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4 ENROLLED, An Act,

5 To amend Section 34-29-131 of the Code of Alabama
6 1975, relating to the euthanasia of dogs and cats in animal
7 shelters; to prohibit the use of gas chambers for the
8 euthanasia of dogs and cats; and to provide a delayed
9 effective date.

10 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

11 Section 1. This act shall be known as "Beckham's
12 Act."

13 Section 2. Section 34-29-131 of the Code of Alabama
14 1975, is amended to read as follows:

15 "§34-29-131.

16 "(a) The board shall provide by rule that sodium
17 pentobarbital, a sodium pentobarbital derivative, or other
18 authorized injectable agents that act on the central nervous
19 system shall be the only means of euthanasia of dogs and cats
20 at facilities approved by the board that are operated for the
21 collection and care of stray, neglected, abandoned, or
22 unwanted dogs and cats.

23 "(b) The board shall promulgate rules providing for
24 the use of carbon monoxide, CO, and inhalant anesthetics as an
25 acceptable alternative to the injectable agents for individual

1 animals or mass euthanasia in small animals other than dogs or
2 cats. Rules shall include provisions for the type of chamber
3 and gas used, training and inspection requirements, humane
4 comfort of the animals, and safety precautions for personnel.

5 "(c) Euthanasia shall be performed only by a
6 licensed veterinarian or an employee or agent of a facility
7 approved by the board that is operated for the collection and
8 care of stray, neglected, abandoned, or unwanted animals,
9 provided the employee or agent has successfully completed a
10 euthanasia technician certification course. The curriculum for
11 the course shall be approved by the board and shall include,
12 at a minimum, all of the following:

13 "(1) The pharmacology, proper administration, and
14 storage of euthanasia solutions.

15 "(2) Federal and state laws regulating the storage
16 and accountability of scheduled drugs.

17 "(3) OSHA Safety and Material Safety Data Sheet
18 Regulations.

19 "(4) Euthanasia stress management.

20 "(5) Proper disposal of euthanized animals.

21 "(d) Notwithstanding the foregoing, a licensed
22 veterinary technician, in accordance with Section 34-29-94,
23 and regulations adopted pursuant thereto, who is an employee
24 or agent of a licensed veterinarian or animal shelter as
25 defined in Section 34-29-130, may perform euthanasia without

1 completing the certification course required by subsection
2 (c).

3 "(e) Within 30 days after January 1, 2012, any
4 animal shelters operated for the collection and care of stray,
5 neglected, abandoned, or unwanted animals, which operated a
6 gas chamber prior to that date shall have dismantled and
7 removed its gas chamber and shall provide documentation to
8 that effect to the board."

9 Section 3. This act shall become effective on
10 December 31, 2011.

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President and Presiding Officer of the Senate

Speaker of the House of Representatives

SB172

Senate 12-APR-11

I hereby certify that the within Act originated in and passed the Senate.

Patrick Harris
Secretary

House of Representatives
Passed: 02-JUN-11

By: Senator Marsh