

1 HB85
2 164880-2
3 By Representative Brown
4 RFD: Public Safety and Homeland Security
5 First Read: 03-MAR-15

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8 SYNOPSIS: This bill would require an animal shelter
9 owner, operator, manager, or director to compile
10 and make available a monthly report detailing the
11 number of animals that have entered the facility or
12 organization and the disposition of the animals.

13 This bill would further require that the
14 operator, owner, manager, or director make
15 available this data to the public upon request.

16
17 A BILL
18 TO BE ENTITLED
19 AN ACT

20
21 Relating to animal control; to require an animal
22 shelter owner, operator, manager, or director to report the
23 total number of animals that have entered the facility and the
24 disposition of the animals; and to make the report available
25 to the public upon request.

26 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

1 Section 1. This act shall be known and cited as the
2 "Animal Census Reporting Act."

3 Section 2. For purposes of this act, the following
4 words have the following meanings:

5 (1) ANIMAL SHELTER. A public or private facility,
6 which includes a physical structure that provides temporary or
7 permanent shelter to stray, abandoned, abused, or
8 owner-surrendered animals that is operated, owned, or
9 maintained by any municipality, county, duly incorporated
10 humane society, animal welfare society, or other nonprofit
11 organization for the purpose of promoting the welfare,
12 protection, and humane treatment of animals. The term "animal
13 shelter" does not include persons providing temporary foster
14 care to animals in their homes or animal rescue groups or
15 animal sanctuaries sheltering animals on an individual's
16 property.

17 (2) PUBLISH. To make available through either
18 electronic means or on paper.

19 Section 3. On a monthly basis, each animal shelter
20 owner, operator, manager, or director shall compile a report
21 containing all of the following information:

22 (1) The number of animals of each species taken in
23 from all of the following sources:

- 24 a. Owner surrenders.
- 25 b. Strays.
- 26 c. Other animal shelters.
- 27 d. Animal control.

- 1 e. Other.
- 2 (2) The number of animals which have been:
- 3 a. Adopted.
- 4 b. Released to or claimed by the owner or owners.
- 5 c. Transferred to other animal shelter facilities or
- 6 released to animal rescue organizations and a list of the
- 7 names of the receiving organizations.
- 8 d. Euthanized for any of the following reasons:
- 9 1. Overcrowding.
- 10 2. Health.
- 11 3. Behavior.
- 12 e. Died from other causes.
- 13 f. Transferred to a research laboratory, school,
- 14 college, university, or agency that supplies or brokers
- 15 animals to these facilities.
- 16 g. Sterilized after arrival.

17 (3) The costs incurred by the animal shelter for
18 housing, maintenance, feeding, medications, transfer,
19 euthanasia, and other expenses related to the care of the
20 animals and their disposition, excluding salary and benefits
21 paid to employees.

22 Section 4. (a) Each animal shelter shall report the
23 information required in Section 3 no later than 30 days after
24 the end of each month. Each animal shelter shall make the
25 report available to the public upon request. The animal
26 shelter may compile, publish, computerize, and enter the data
27 or information required in Section 3 in a form which is

1 compatible with any system utilized by the animal shelter as
2 long as the information required in Section 3 is included in
3 the report.

4 (b) The animal shelter may charge a reasonable fee
5 for a copy of the report. Each animal shelter shall maintain
6 the annual reports for a minimum of three years.

7 (c) Reports under this act shall be considered a
8 public record and access to the reports shall not be denied
9 for any reason.

10 (d) Any report compiled by the owner, operator,
11 manager, or director of an animal shelter pursuant to this act
12 shall include a statement by the person preparing the report
13 certifying that the report is true and correct to the best of
14 his or her knowledge.

15 Section 5. This act shall become effective on the
16 first day of the third month following its passage and
17 approval by the Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.