

JAN 20 2017

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO ANIMALS.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that every year over one
2 hundred million animals are used as subjects of scientific and
3 medical research, as well as for educational purposes. As
4 recently as 2015, over 19,000 cats and 61,000 dogs were used in
5 research. The legislature further finds that many of the
6 animals used for research and education are euthanized after
7 they are used, despite being healthy and suitable for adoption.

8 The purpose of this Act is to:

- 9 (1) Require research facilities to make available for
10 adoption healthy cats and dogs that are no longer
11 required for research; and
- 12 (2) Allow research facilities to contract with local
13 animal shelters and rescue groups to facilitate the
14 adoptions.

15 SECTION 2. Chapter 143, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
16 amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated
17 and to read as follows:



1 "§143- Animal research. (a) A research facility, or
2 employee or student thereof, that confines cats or dogs for
3 science, education, or research purposes and plans to euthanize
4 a cat or dog for purposes other than science, education, or
5 research shall first offer the cat or dog to an animal rescue
6 organization for adoption if the animal is suitable for adoption
7 and the research facility's existing procedures for adopting the
8 animal do not result in an adoption. A research facility that
9 is required to offer cats or dogs to an animal rescue
10 organization under this section may enter into an agreement with
11 an animal rescue organization for the implementation of this
12 section.

13 (b) A research facility that provides a cat or dog to an
14 animal rescue organization under this section is immune from any
15 civil liability that otherwise might result from its actions;
16 provided that the research facility is acting in good faith.

17 (c) For the purposes of this section:

18 "Animal rescue organization" means any nonprofit
19 organization established for the purposes of rescuing animals in
20 need and finding permanent, adoptive homes for the animals.



1 "Research facility" means a facility of an institute of
 2 higher education that receives public money, including tax
 3 exempt status; a facility that provides research in
 4 collaboration with an institution of higher education; or a
 5 facility that conducts experiments on cats or dogs for science,
 6 testing, education, or research purposes."

7 SECTION 3. New statutory material is underscored.

8 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

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S.B. NO. 593

Report Title:

Research Animals; Adoption

Description:

Requires research facilities to make available for adoption healthy cats and dogs that are no longer needed for research. Authorizes research facilities to contract with local animal rescue organizations to facilitate the adoption of the cats and dogs.

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