

The Florida Senate
BILL ANALYSIS AND FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

(This document is based on the provisions contained in the legislation as of the latest date listed below.)

Prepared By: The Professional Staff of the Agriculture Committee

BILL: SPB 7006

INTRODUCER: For consideration by the Agriculture Committee

SUBJECT: Animal Shelter-Related Facilities

DATE: January 12, 2009

REVISED: _____

	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR	REFERENCE	ACTION
1.	Akhavein	Poole		Pre-meeting
2.				
3.				
4.				
5.				
6.				

I. Summary:

This bill provides that the Legislature intends to revise laws relating to animal shelter-related facilities. It is the result of Interim Report 2009-101.

This bill amends a currently undesignated section of the Florida Statutes.

II. Present Situation:

In Florida and across the country, the unavailability of pet adoptive homes and inability for municipal shelters to provide adequate space to house them has contributed to a large number of animals being euthanized. These shelters are run by a city, county or other public entity and are funded by taxpayer dollars. Their primary job is to pick up stray and nuisance animals and to reunite lost animals with their owners. In addition, they house many animals that are surrendered by their owners, who for various reasons are no longer able to care for them.

In recent years, there has been a trend toward establishing “low-kill” or “no-kill” municipal or private animal shelters in the state and around the country to try to end such a high rate of euthanization. The majority of these shelters are privately owned and funded by private donations. In these shelters, animals are euthanized only to alleviate the animal’s suffering or because the animal is too vicious to be controllable. Animals are not euthanized because there is not enough space at the shelter, because the animal is sick, handicapped, or unattractive, or if it has correctable behavioral problems. Interim Report 2009-101 provides information about ways to successfully transition a shelter to low-kill or no-kill.

III. Effect of Proposed Changes:

None.

IV. Constitutional Issues:**A. Municipality/County Mandates Restrictions:**

None.

B. Public Records/Open Meetings Issues:

None.

C. Trust Funds Restrictions:

None.

V. Fiscal Impact Statement:**A. Tax/Fee Issues:**

None.

B. Private Sector Impact:

None.

C. Government Sector Impact:

None.

VI. Technical Deficiencies:

None.

VII. Related Issues:

None.

VIII. Additional Information:**A. Committee Substitute – Statement of Substantial Changes:**
(Summarizing differences between the Committee Substitute and the prior version of the bill.)

None.

B. Amendments:

None.

This Senate Bill Analysis does not reflect the intent or official position of the bill's introducer or the Florida Senate.
