



736412

LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate	.	House
Comm: RCS	.	
03/18/2013	.	
	.	
	.	
	.	

---

---

The Committee on Agriculture (Sachs) recommended the following:

**Senate Amendment (with title amendment)**

Delete everything after the enacting clause  
and insert:

Section 1. This act may be cited as the "Transparency in  
Animal Shelter Act".

Section 2. Section 823.17 Florida Statutes is created to  
read:

823.17 Uniform reporting requirements for animal shelters  
and animal control agencies.

(1) The Legislature finds that additional efforts must be  
made to find homes for homeless and unwanted animals in an  
effort to reduce or eliminate the euthanasia of adoptable dogs



736412

14 and cats. To that end, the Legislature finds that defining the  
15 problem and assessing programs both require statistical  
16 measurement.

17 (2) In furtherance of this policy, provision shall be made  
18 for the uniform reporting of statistics related to dogs and cats  
19 taken in and the ultimate disposition of the animal. Each animal  
20 shelter whether public or private, including all animal control  
21 agencies of a county, municipality, or other incorporated  
22 political subdivision that euthanizes animals according to s.  
23 828.058 shall prepare and maintain the following records on a  
24 monthly and annual basis, using the calendar year, and make the  
25 reports available for public inspection and dissemination no  
26 later than 5 business days after the end of the each calendar  
27 month:

28 (a) The total number dogs and cats taken in by the animal  
29 shelter and animal control agency, divided by dogs and cats, or  
30 others in the following categories:

31 1. Starting inventory/shelter count on the first day of the  
32 month;

33 2. Stray/At-large;

34 3. Confiscated/Involuntarily taken;

35 4. Relinquished by owner;

36 5. Born in shelter;

37 6. Owner requested euthanasia;

38 7. Transferred in or imported from within the state; and

39 8. Transferred in or imported from out of the state.

40 (b) The disposition of all animals taken into the animal  
41 shelter or animal control agency, divided by dogs and cats in  
42 the following categories:



736412

- 43        1. Adopted;
- 44        2. Returned to owner;
- 45        3. Transferred out or exported within the state;
- 46        4. Transferred out or exported to another state;
- 47        5. Released in field/TNR;
- 48        6. Shelter euthanasia;
- 49        7. Owner requested euthanasia;
- 50        8. Died in care/other deaths not shown as shelter or owner
- 51 requested euthanasia;
- 52        9. Lost in care/Missing animals or records; and
- 53        10. Ending inventory/shelter count at the end of the last
- 54 day of the month.

55        (3) Each animal shelter and animal control agency shall  
56 post these statistics online on the animal shelter, county,  
57 municipality, or other governmental website that controls the  
58 animal shelter and that is accessible to the general public  
59 within 5 business days after the first day of each month, in  
60 accordance with the state's requirements on the accessibility of  
61 public records, as well as make the records available in hard  
62 copy as defined in s. 119.07.

63        (4) The director of the animal shelter or animal control  
64 agency shall sign each report indicating the report is true and  
65 accurate to the best of his or her knowledge.

66        Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2013.

67  
68 ===== T I T L E   A M E N D M E N T =====

69 And the title is amended as follows:

70        Delete everything before the enacting clause  
71 and insert:



736412

72  
73  
74  
75  
76  
77  
78  
79  
80  
81  
82  
83

A bill to be entitled  
An act relating to animal shelters and animal control agencies; providing a short title; creating s. 823.17, F.S.; providing legislative findings; requiring each animal shelter and animal control agency to compile monthly and annual summaries of statistical data; listing the categories of information required in the summaries; requiring the summaries be posted on the entity's website within a specified time period; requiring each summary to be signed by the director of the animal shelter or animal control agency as true and accurate; providing an effective date.