

By the Committee on Judiciary; and Senators Pizzo, Stewart, Gruters, Perry, Harrell, Torres, Diaz, Albritton, Farmer, Flores, Powell, Cruz, Book, Hooper, Mayfield, Taddeo, Rodriguez, and Montford

590-03111-20

20201044c1

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to animal cruelty; providing a short
3 title; creating s. 828.124, F.S.; defining the term
4 "treatment provider"; providing immunity from criminal
5 and civil liability for certain persons and entities
6 who report animal cruelty; prohibiting the alteration
7 or destruction of certain records; providing criminal
8 penalties; providing an effective date.

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10 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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12 Section 1. This act may be cited as "Allie's Law."

13 Section 2. Section 828.124, Florida Statutes, is created to
14 read:

15 828.124 Reporting animal cruelty; medical records.-

16 (1) As used in this section, the term "treatment provider"
17 includes any animal care facility, animal hospital, private
18 veterinary practice, animal shelter, veterinary school,
19 specialized veterinary hospital or any place dogs or cats are
20 seen for any kind of treatment.

21 (2) A treatment provider or an employee or volunteer of a
22 treatment provider who in the normal course of care of a dog or
23 cat knows or has reason to suspect animal cruelty as prohibited
24 in s. 828.12(1) shall be held harmless from either criminal or
25 civil liability for any decisions made in good faith to report
26 suspected cruelty to a local law enforcement agency or animal
27 control agency or to cooperate with any related investigation of
28 cruelty to animals.

29 (3) An employee or volunteer of a treatment provider who

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30 knowingly alters or destroys an existing medical record for the
31 purpose of concealing or attempting to conceal cruelty to a dog
32 or cat commits a misdemeanor of the first degree, punishable as
33 provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083.

34 Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2020.