

1 A bill to be entitled

2 An act relating to pet protection; providing a

3 directive to the Division of Law Revision; creating s.

4 468.901, F.S.; providing a short title; creating s.

5 468.903, F.S.; defining terms; creating s. 468.905,

6 F.S.; requiring the licensure of retail pet stores;

7 requiring the Department of Business and Professional

8 Regulation to adopt standards and procedures for such

9 licensure; prohibiting unlicensed retail pet stores

10 from taking certain actions regarding certain

11 household pets; creating s. 468.907, F.S.; defining

12 the term "qualified breeder"; limiting the sources

13 from which retail pet stores may acquire household

14 pets for specified purposes; prohibiting certain

15 household pets from being used by retail pet stores

16 for specified purposes; requiring certain

17 documentation of the sources from which retail pet

18 stores acquire household pets for sale; providing

19 requirements for the living conditions for household

20 pets at retail pet stores; providing retail pet store

21 veterinarian, exercise, and socialization

22 requirements; creating s. 468.909, F.S.; requiring the

23 department to conduct periodic inspections of retail

24 pet stores and to audit sales records; requiring the

25 department to establish procedures for the inspections

26 | and records of the inspections; authorizing contracts
27 | with certain veterinarians to conduct inspections;
28 | creating s. 468.911, F.S.; requiring the department to
29 | deny a retail pet store license under certain
30 | circumstances; authorizing disciplinary action under
31 | certain circumstances; specifying administrative
32 | procedures; providing civil penalties; authorizing the
33 | department to adopt rules; creating s. 468.913, F.S.;
34 | authorizing civil actions for purposes of enforcement;
35 | creating s. 468.915, F.S.; providing criminal
36 | penalties for specified violations; creating s.
37 | 468.917, F.S.; requiring certain moneys to be
38 | deposited into the department's Professional
39 | Regulation Trust Fund; creating s. 468.919, F.S.;
40 | providing construction; creating s. 468.921, F.S.;
41 | prohibiting county and municipal ordinances and
42 | regulations from prohibiting or regulating the
43 | breeding, purchase, or sale of certain working dogs;
44 | providing applicability with regard to new and
45 | existing county and municipal ordinances and
46 | regulations; amending s. 823.15, F.S.; requiring
47 | certain public or private animal agencies to report on
48 | a monthly basis certain animal records to the
49 | Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services;
50 | requiring public animal rescues to make records

51 available to the public; requiring the department to
52 make the data reported by the agencies available on
53 its website in a specified manner; requiring public
54 and private animal rescues and humane organizations to
55 provide for the sterilization of adopted dogs and cats
56 according to certain requirements; authorizing public
57 or private animal rescues to implant dogs and cats
58 with radio frequency identification microchips and to
59 contact the owners of such devices to verify pet
60 ownership; requiring certain public or private animal
61 agencies to disclose a dog's bite history before
62 adoption; prohibiting certain public or private animal
63 agencies from intentionally breeding dogs or cats for
64 sale to the public and from exchanging payment or
65 compensation to obtain dogs or cats from certain
66 persons; providing applicability; amending s. 474.203,
67 F.S.; conforming a provision to changes made by the
68 act; providing an effective date.

69
70 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

71
72 Section 1. The Division of Law Revision is directed to
73 create part XVII of chapter 468, Florida Statutes, consisting of
74 ss. 468.901-468.921, Florida Statutes, to be entitled "Retail
75 Pet Stores."

76 Section 2. Section 468.901, Florida Statutes, is created
 77 to read:

78 468.901 Short title.—This part may be cited as the
 79 "Florida Pet Protection Act."

80 Section 3. Section 468.903, Florida Statutes, is created
 81 to read:

82 468.903 Definitions.—As used in this part, the term:

83 (1) "Animal rescue" means a nonprofit organization exempt
 84 from federal income taxation under s. 501(c)(3) of the Internal
 85 Revenue Code which keeps, houses, and maintains household pets
 86 and which is dedicated to the welfare, health, safety, and
 87 protection of such pets. The term includes an organization that
 88 offers spayed or neutered household pets for adoption and
 89 charges only reasonable adoption fees to cover the
 90 organization's costs, including, but not limited to, costs
 91 related to spaying or neutering the pets.

92 (2) "Animal shelter" means a public facility, or a private
 93 facility operated by a nonprofit organization exempt from
 94 federal income taxation under s. 501(c)(3) of the Internal
 95 Revenue Code, which keeps, houses, and maintains household pets,
 96 such as a county or municipal animal control agency or pound, a
 97 humane society, an animal welfare society, a society for the
 98 prevention of cruelty to animals, or another nonprofit
 99 organization devoted to the welfare, protection, and humane
 100 treatment of household pets.

101 (3) "Department" means the Department of Business and
 102 Professional Regulation.

103 (4) "Household pet" means a domestic dog or a domestic
 104 cat.

105 (5) "Pet broker" means a person who buys, sells, or offers
 106 for sale household pets for resale to other persons, or who
 107 sells or gives one or more pets to a retail pet store, and who
 108 holds a valid Class B animal dealer license issued by the United
 109 States Department of Agriculture.

110 (6) "Professional breeder" means a person required to be
 111 licensed as a Class A animal dealer by the United States
 112 Department of Agriculture.

113 (7) "Retail pet store" means a retail store that sells or
 114 offers for sale household pets to the public. The term does not
 115 include an animal rescue; an animal shelter; or a breeder who
 116 sells or transfers, directly to the public, household pets bred
 117 and raised on the breeder's premises.

118 (8) "Veterinarian" means a health care practitioner
 119 licensed under chapter 474, or licensed in another state by the
 120 applicable entity in that state, to engage in the practice of
 121 veterinary medicine.

122 Section 4. Section 468.905, Florida Statutes, is created
 123 to read:

124 468.905 Licensure of retail pet stores.—

125 (1) A person may not operate a retail pet store in this

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126 state without having a valid retail pet store license issued by
127 the department in accordance with this section.

128 (2) The department shall adopt standards and procedures
129 for the licensure of retail pet stores consistent with this act.
130 An applicant for a retail pet store license must apply to the
131 department on a form prescribed by the department for each
132 premises. Upon licensure, the department shall assign a unique
133 license number for each licensed premises.

134 (3) The department may establish annual licenses that are
135 valid for 1 year and that may be renewed. An application for
136 renewal of a license must be submitted to the department in a
137 format prescribed by the department.

138 (4) A retail pet store that does not have a valid license
139 may not display, offer for sale, deliver, barter, auction,
140 broker, give away, transfer, or sell any household pet from the
141 store.

142 Section 5. Section 468.907, Florida Statutes, is created
143 to read:

144 468.907 Sale or transfer of household pets by retail pet
145 stores.-

146 (1) As used in this section, the term "qualified breeder"
147 means a professional breeder located within or outside this
148 state who meets all of the following requirements:

149 (a) Holds a valid Class A animal license issued by the
150 United States Department of Agriculture and, if required by the

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151 state in which he or she is located, is licensed by a state
152 agency.

153 (b) Has not been issued a report of a finally adjudicated
154 direct noncompliance violation by the United States Department
155 of Agriculture under the federal Animal Welfare Act, 7 U.S.C.
156 ss. 2131 et seq., in the 2 years immediately before offering for
157 sale, delivering, bartering, auctioning, brokering, giving away,
158 transferring, or selling a household pet. However, a
159 professional breeder is not considered a qualified breeder until
160 any pending report of a direct noncompliance violation is
161 finally adjudicated.

162 (c) Has not had three or more finally adjudicated
163 noncompliance violations documented in any report issued by the
164 United States Department of Agriculture under the federal Animal
165 Welfare Act, 7 U.S.C. ss. 2131 et seq., for the year immediately
166 before offering for sale, delivering, bartering, auctioning,
167 brokering, giving away, transferring, or selling a household
168 pet. However, a professional breeder is not considered a
169 qualified breeder until any pending report of a noncompliance
170 violation is finally adjudicated.

171 (2) A retail pet store may not display, offer for sale,
172 deliver, barter, auction, broker, give away, transfer, or sell
173 any household pet from the store unless such pet was acquired
174 from one of the following sources:

175 (a) A qualified breeder.

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176 (b) A person who, pursuant to 9 C.F.R. s. 2.1(a)(3)(ii)-
177 (vii), is exempt from licensure by the United States Department
178 of Agriculture.

179 (c) An animal rescue.

180 (d) An animal shelter.

181 (e) A pet broker; however, if the pet broker acquires the
182 pet from a professional breeder, the breeder must be a qualified
183 breeder.

184 (3) A retail pet store may not sell, deliver, barter,
185 auction, broker, give away, or transfer any household pet:

186 (a) Younger than 8 weeks of age.

187 (b) That has not been implanted with an International
188 Organization for Standardization (ISO) identification microchip.

189 (c) That does not have a valid veterinary certification,
190 including the United States Interstate and International
191 Certificate of Health Examination for Small Animals prescribed
192 by the United States Department of Agriculture or the official
193 certificate of veterinary inspection prescribed by the
194 Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services pursuant to s.
195 828.29.

196 (d) To a person younger than 18 years of age, as verified
197 by a valid driver license, state identification card, or other
198 government-issued identification card bearing a photograph of
199 the cardholder.

200 (e) Acquired from a qualified breeder or pet broker,

201 unless the retail pet store provides to the buyer acquiring the
 202 pet, before completing the transaction, a written certification
 203 that includes the following:

204 1. The name, address, and, if applicable, United States
 205 Department of Agriculture license number of the breeder who bred
 206 the household pet.

207 2. An electronic or paper copy of the breeder's most
 208 recent United States Department of Agriculture inspection
 209 report, if applicable.

210 3. The household pet's date of birth, if known.

211 4. The date the retail pet store took possession of the
 212 household pet.

213 5. The breed, gender, color, and any identifying marks of
 214 the household pet.

215 6. A signed statement by the retail pet store's Florida-
 216 licensed veterinarian, in a format prescribed by the department,
 217 which describes any known disease, illness, or congenital or
 218 hereditary condition that adversely affects the health of the
 219 household pet at the time of examination.

220 7. A document signed by the owner or a manager or an
 221 employee of the retail pet store certifying that all information
 222 required to be provided to the person acquiring the household
 223 pet under this paragraph is accurate.

224
 225 A retail pet store shall keep an electronic or paper copy of the

226 certification for at least 3 years after the date the buyer
227 acquires the household pet. The owner or a manager or an
228 employee of a retail pet store may not fraudulently alter or
229 provide false information on a certification provided in
230 accordance with this paragraph.

231 (4) A licensed retail pet store shall provide the buyer of
232 a household pet with all of the following information:

233 (a) The pet's microchip identification number.

234 (b) The complete name, address, and telephone number of
235 all professional breeders, pet brokers, or other persons who
236 kept, housed, or maintained the pet before the retail pet store
237 took possession of the animal or proof that the pet was acquired
238 through an animal rescue or animal shelter.

239 (c) A photograph or digital image and the name and
240 registration number of both of the pet's parents, sire and dam.

241
242 A retail pet store shall keep a copy of the documentation
243 required under this subsection for at least 3 years after the
244 date it acquired the household pet.

245 (5) A retail pet store shall provide for all of the
246 following:

247 (a) Flooring in the primary enclosures that house
248 household pets which is constructed of a solid surface or, if
249 grid-style or wire flooring is used, the surface of which is
250 covered with a rubberized or coated material that prevents a

251 pet's toe or foot from passing through or being caught in the
252 flooring. A retail pet store shall clean all primary enclosures
253 daily, or as often as necessary to prevent accumulation of
254 bodily waste, and keep a daily sanitation log.

255 (b) An isolation enclosure with separate ventilation which
256 allows a household pet to be kept separately from other pets
257 while under veterinarian-directed isolation.

258 (c) Climate control that ensures that the ambient air
259 temperature of the retail pet store's premises is kept between
260 67 and 78 degrees at all times. Retail pet stores shall keep
261 daily logs of the temperature. If, for any reason, the
262 temperature falls outside the required range, a corrective
263 action record detailing steps taken to adjust the temperature
264 must be kept.

265 (d) A Florida-licensed veterinarian who visits the retail
266 pet store at least twice each week to observe the condition of
267 the pets' health and overall well-being.

268 (e) An enrichment program for puppies which consists of
269 exercise and socialization for at least two 30-minute periods
270 each day. A retail pet store must keep a log for each puppy of
271 the daily activities that the puppy participates in as part of
272 the program.

273 (f) A photograph or digital image and video footage
274 depicting each breeding facility from which the retail pet store
275 acquires household pets.

276 Section 6. Section 468.909, Florida Statutes, is created
 277 to read:

278 468.909 Inspections.-

279 (1)(a) At least annually, the department shall inspect
 280 each retail pet store that is subject to licensure to ensure
 281 compliance with this part and with rules adopted under this
 282 part. The inspection must include, but need not be limited to,
 283 an audit of the records that the licensee maintains pursuant to
 284 s. 468.907(3)(e) and (4).

285 (b) The department also may conduct an inspection upon
 286 receipt of a complaint or other information alleging a violation
 287 of this part or rules adopted under this part.

288 (2) The department shall establish procedures for
 289 conducting inspections and making records of inspections.
 290 Inspections must be conducted during regular business hours in
 291 accordance with the department's procedures and may be conducted
 292 without prior notice. The department shall maintain a record of
 293 each inspection in accordance with such procedures.

294 (3) The department may enter into a contract or an
 295 agreement with one or more veterinarians to conduct inspections
 296 under this section. Such veterinarians must be independent and
 297 may not be affiliated with a retail pet store or an animal
 298 rights advocacy organization.

299 Section 7. Section 468.911, Florida Statutes, is created
 300 to read:

301 468.911 Administrative remedies; penalties.—
 302 (1) The department must deny an application for issuance
 303 or renewal of a retail pet store license if either of the
 304 following applies:
 305 (a) The licensee or applicant violates this part or any
 306 rule or order issued under this part, if the violation
 307 materially threatens the health or welfare of a household pet.
 308 (b) The licensee or applicant, in the past 20 years, has
 309 been convicted of or pled guilty or nolo contendere to,
 310 regardless of adjudication, a misdemeanor or felony under
 311 chapter 828 or a misdemeanor or felony under chapter 741
 312 involving an act of domestic violence.
 313 (2) The department may enter an order for one or more of
 314 the following if the department finds that an owner of a retail
 315 pet store, or a person employed or contracted by a retail pet
 316 store about whom the owner knows or reasonably should have
 317 known, has violated or is operating in violation of this part or
 318 any rule or order issued pursuant to this part:
 319 (a) Issuing a notice of noncompliance under s. 120.695.
 320 (b) Imposing an administrative fine for each act or
 321 omission, not to exceed the following amounts:
 322 1. For a first violation, \$250.
 323 2. For a second violation, \$500.
 324 3. For a third or subsequent violation, \$1,000.
 325

326 Each day that a violation continues constitutes a separate
 327 violation.

328 (c) Directing that the person cease and desist specified
 329 activities.

330 (d) Refusing to issue or renew a license or revoking or
 331 suspending a license.

332 (e) Placing the licensee on probation, subject to
 333 conditions specified by the department.

334 (3) The administrative proceedings that could result in
 335 the entry of an order imposing any of the penalties specified in
 336 subsection (1) or subsection (2) are governed by chapter 120.

337 (4) The department may adopt rules to administer this
 338 part.

339 Section 8. Section 468.913, Florida Statutes, is created
 340 to read:

341 468.913 Civil penalties; remedies.—The department may
 342 bring a civil action in a court of competent jurisdiction to
 343 recover any penalties or damages authorized by this part and for
 344 injunctive relief to enforce compliance with this part.

345 Section 9. Section 468.915, Florida Statutes, is created
 346 to read:

347 468.915 Criminal penalties.—A person commits a misdemeanor
 348 of the second degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s.
 349 775.083, if he or she violates either of the following:

350 (1) Section 468.905(1) or (4), relating to operation of a

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351 retail pet store without a license.

352 (2) Section 468.907(2) or (3), relating to unlawful
353 practices in the sale of household pets by a retail pet store.

354 Section 10. Section 468.917, Florida Statutes, is created
355 to read:

356 468.917 Deposit of funds.—All moneys collected by the
357 department under this part from civil penalties must be
358 deposited into the department's Professional Regulation Trust
359 Fund for use by the department for administration of this part.

360 Section 11. Section 468.919, Florida Statutes, is created
361 to read:

362 468.919 Construction.—This part may not be construed to
363 prohibit or regulate a person who offers for sale, directly to
364 the public, only dogs that the person has bred or has trained to
365 be hunting dogs, field trial dogs, sporting dogs, conformation
366 dogs, cattle dogs, police dogs, or service dogs as defined under
367 the Americans with Disabilities Act.

368 Section 12. Section 468.921, Florida Statutes, is created
369 to read:

370 468.921 Local regulation; grandfathering of existing local
371 regulations.—

372 (1) A county or municipality may not prohibit or regulate
373 a person who offers for sale, directly to the public, only dogs
374 that the person has bred or has trained to be hunting dogs,
375 field trial dogs, sporting dogs, conformation dogs, cattle dogs,

376 police dogs, or service dogs as defined under the Americans with
 377 Disabilities Act.

378 (2) (a) A county or municipality may adopt an ordinance or
 379 a regulation on or after July 1, 2022, which regulates, but does
 380 not prohibit, the operation of retail pet stores or the
 381 breeding, purchase, or sale of household pets, provided the
 382 ordinances or regulations are consistent and not in conflict
 383 with the rules imposed under s. 468.907.

384 (b) This subsection does not affect any of the following:

385 1. Any county or municipal ordinance or regulation in
 386 effect on or before June 1, 2021, which prohibits the operation
 387 of retail pet stores within its jurisdiction.

388 2. Any county or municipal ordinance or regulation adopted
 389 before July 1, 2022, which imposes a moratorium on the
 390 establishment of new retail pet stores, or that otherwise
 391 regulates such stores within its jurisdiction.

392 (c) This subsection does not affect a local government's
 393 authority to levy a local business tax pursuant to chapter 205.

394 Section 13. Section 823.15, Florida Statutes, is amended
 395 to read:

396 823.15 Public or private animal agencies; sterilization,
 397 ~~required for dogs and cats released;~~ recordkeeping, and
 398 disclosure requirements; microchipping.—

399 (1) The Legislature finds ~~has determined~~ that the
 400 importation of dogs and cats into, and the uncontrolled breeding

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401 of dogs and cats in, this state pose risks to the well-being of
402 dogs and cats, the health of humans and animals, and the
403 agricultural interests in this state. Importation of dogs and
404 cats from outside the United States could result in the
405 transmission of diseases that have been eradicated in the United
406 States to dogs and cats, other animals, and humans living in
407 this state. Uncontrolled breeding results in the birth of many
408 more puppies and kittens than are needed to provide pet animals
409 to new owners or to replace pet animals that have died or become
410 lost. This leads to many dogs, cats, puppies, and kittens being
411 unwanted, becoming strays and suffering privation and death,
412 being impounded and destroyed at great expense to the community,
413 and constituting a public nuisance and public health hazard. It
414 is therefore declared to be the public policy of the state that
415 every feasible means be used to reduce the incidence of birth of
416 unneeded and unwanted puppies and kittens. Determining which
417 programs result in improved adoption rates and in reduced
418 euthanasia rates for animals in shelters and animal control
419 agencies is crucial to this effort.

420 (2) (a) Each public or private animal shelter, animal
421 rescue, humane organization, or animal control agency operated
422 by a humane organization or by a county, municipality, or other
423 incorporated political subdivision, shall prepare and maintain
424 the ~~following~~ records required by this paragraph and make them
425 available for public inspection and dissemination for the 3

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426 preceding years. The following data must ~~will~~ be available and
427 reported to the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services
428 on a monthly basis ~~commencing July 31, 2013~~:

429 1. The total number of dogs and cats taken in by the
430 animal shelter, animal rescue, humane organization, or animal
431 control agency, divided into species, in the following
432 categories:

- 433 a. Surrendered by owner;
- 434 b. Stray;
- 435 c. Impounded;
- 436 d. Confiscated;
- 437 e. Transferred from within this state ~~Florida~~;
- 438 f. Transferred into or imported from out of this ~~the~~
439 state; and
- 440 g. Born in shelter.

441
442 Species other than domestic cats and domestic dogs should be
443 recorded as "other."

444 2. The disposition of all animals taken in by a public or
445 private animal shelter, animal rescue, humane organization, or
446 animal control agency operated by a humane society or by a
447 county, municipality, or other incorporated political
448 subdivision, divided into species. These data must include
449 dispositions by:

- 450 a. Adoption;

- 451 b. Reclamation by owner;
- 452 c. Death in kennel;
- 453 d. Euthanasia at the owner's request;
- 454 e. Transfer to another public or private animal shelter,
- 455 animal rescue, humane organization, or animal control agency
- 456 operated by a humane society or by a county, municipality, or
- 457 other incorporated political subdivision;
- 458 f. Euthanasia;
- 459 g. Released in field/Trapped, Neutered, Released (TNR);
- 460 h. Lost in care/missing animals or records; and
- 461 i. Ending inventory/shelter count at end of the last day
- 462 of the month.

463 3. A public or private animal shelter, animal rescue,

464 humane organization, or animal control agency operated by a

465 humane society, or by a county, municipality, or other

466 incorporated political subdivision, which routinely euthanizes

467 dogs based on size or breed alone must provide a written

468 statement of such policy. Dogs euthanized due to breed,

469 temperament, or size must be recorded and included in the

470 calculation of the total euthanasia percentage.

471 4. Certificates of veterinary inspections for all dogs and

472 cats imported into this state.

473 (b) Records of a public animal shelter, animal rescue,

474 humane organization, or animal control agency operated by a

475 humane society must be made available to the public pursuant to

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476 ~~provisions in~~ chapter 119.

477 (c) The Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services
478 shall make the data it receives pursuant to this subsection
479 available to the public on a monthly basis and in a searchable
480 format on its website.

481 (3) In furtherance of this policy, provision shall be made
482 for the sterilization of all dogs and cats ~~sold or~~ released for
483 adoption from any public or private animal shelter, animal
484 rescue, humane organization, or animal control agency operated
485 by a humane society or by a county, municipality ~~city,~~ or other
486 incorporated political subdivision, by either:

487 (a) Providing sterilization by a licensed veterinarian
488 before relinquishing custody of the animal; or

489 (b) Entering into a written agreement with the adopter or
490 purchaser guaranteeing that sterilization will be performed
491 within 30 days or before ~~prior to~~ sexual maturity. The shelter
492 or animal control agency shall require a sufficient deposit from
493 the adopter or purchaser, which deposit shall be refundable upon
494 presentation to the shelter or animal control agency of written
495 evidence by the veterinarian performing the sterilization that
496 the animal has been sterilized. ~~The deposit or donation may be~~
497 ~~based upon recommended guidelines established by the Florida~~
498 ~~Federation of Humane Societies.~~ Failure by either party to
499 comply with ~~the provisions of~~ this paragraph constitutes ~~shall~~
500 ~~be~~ a noncriminal violation as defined in s. 775.08(3),

501 punishable by a fine, forfeiture, or other civil penalty, and,
 502 in addition thereto, the deposit or donation shall be forfeited
 503 to the shelter or animal control agency. Any legal fees or court
 504 costs used for the enforcement of this paragraph are the
 505 responsibility of the adopter. Upon the request of a licensed
 506 veterinarian, and for a valid reason, the shelter or animal
 507 control agency shall extend the time limit within which the
 508 animal must be sterilized.

509 (4) All costs of sterilization pursuant to this section
 510 shall be paid by the prospective adopter unless otherwise
 511 provided for by ordinance of the local governing body, with
 512 respect to animal control agencies or shelters operated or
 513 subsidized by a unit of local government, or provided for by the
 514 humane society governing body, with respect to an animal control
 515 agency or shelter operated solely by the humane society and not
 516 subsidized by public funds.

517 (5) Employees, agents, or contractors of a public or
 518 private animal shelter, animal rescue, ~~a~~ humane organization, or
 519 ~~an~~ animal control agency operated by a humane organization or by
 520 a county, municipality, or other incorporated political
 521 subdivision may implant dogs and cats with radio frequency
 522 identification microchips as part of their work with such public
 523 or private animal shelter, animal rescue, humane organization,
 524 or animal control agency.

525 (6) Notwithstanding s. 474.2165, employees, agents, or

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526 | contractors of a public or private animal shelter, animal
527 | rescue, ~~a~~ humane organization, or ~~an~~ animal control agency
528 | operated by a humane organization or by a county, municipality,
529 | or other incorporated political subdivision may contact the
530 | owner of record listed on a radio frequency identification
531 | microchip to verify pet ownership.

532 | (7) Any public or private animal shelter, animal rescue,
533 | humane organization, or animal control agency operated by a
534 | humane society or any county, municipality, or other
535 | incorporated political subdivision shall disclose any bite
536 | history that exists for a dog before releasing the animal for
537 | adoption.

538 | (8) A public or private animal shelter, animal rescue,
539 | humane organization, or animal control agency operated by a
540 | humane society or any county, municipality, or other
541 | incorporated political subdivision may not intentionally breed
542 | dogs or cats for sale to the public or, in exchange for payment
543 | or any other compensation, obtain a dog or cat from a person who
544 | breeds dogs or cats, resells dogs or cats from a breeder, or
545 | sells dogs or cats at auction. This subsection does not apply to
546 | or affect the ability of a person who offers for sale, directly
547 | to the public, dogs or cats that the person has bred or trained
548 | on his or her own property.

549 | Section 14. Subsection (9) of section 474.203, Florida
550 | Statutes, is amended to read:

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551 474.203 Exemptions.—This chapter does not apply to:
552 (9) An employee, an agent, or a contractor of a public or
553 private animal shelter, animal rescue, humane organization, or
554 animal control agency operated by a humane organization or by a
555 county, a municipality, or another incorporated political
556 subdivision whose work is confined solely to the implantation of
557 a radio frequency identification device microchip for dogs and
558 cats in accordance with s. 823.15.

559
560 For the purposes of chapters 465 and 893, persons exempt
561 pursuant to subsection (1), subsection (2), or subsection (4)
562 are deemed to be duly licensed practitioners authorized by the
563 laws of this state to prescribe drugs or medicinal supplies.

564 Section 15. This act shall take effect July 1, 2022.