

1 A bill to be entitled
 2 An act relating to research animals; creating s.
 3 828.067, F.S.; requiring research facilities to offer
 4 certain dogs and cats for adoption to societies or
 5 associations for the prevention of cruelty to animals
 6 before euthanizing such dogs and cats; authorizing
 7 research facilities to enter into collaborative
 8 agreements with such societies and associations;
 9 providing immunity from liability for research
 10 facilities acting in good faith; requiring research
 11 facilities to submit specified annual reports to the
 12 Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services
 13 beginning on a specified date; providing penalties;
 14 creating s. 828.068, F.S.; providing definitions;
 15 requiring certain publicly funded institutions to make
 16 an annual report concerning animal testing activities;
 17 providing requirements for the report; providing an
 18 effective date.

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

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22 Section 1. Section 828.067, Florida Statutes, is created
 23 to read:

24 828.067 Adoption of research dogs and cats.-
 25 (1) (a) Before euthanizing a dog or cat that is no longer

26 needed for laboratory research purposes, a research facility
 27 located in the state shall offer the dog or cat for adoption to
 28 any society or association for the prevention of cruelty to
 29 animals, unless euthanizing the dog or cat is required for
 30 health or safety reasons.

31 (b) A research facility may enter into a collaborative
 32 agreement with a society or association for the prevention of
 33 cruelty to animals for the purpose of carrying out the
 34 provisions of this subsection.

35 (2) A research facility that offers a dog or cat to a
 36 society or association for the prevention of cruelty to animals
 37 pursuant to subsection (1) is immune from civil liability for or
 38 resulting from the transfer of the dog or cat if the research
 39 facility acted in good faith concerning the health and physical
 40 condition of the dog or cat.

41 (3) Beginning January 31, 2025, and each January 31
 42 thereafter, a research facility that uses dogs or cats for
 43 laboratory research shall submit to the Department of
 44 Agriculture and Consumer Services a report that includes the
 45 following information for the preceding year:

46 (a) The total number of dogs and cats owned by the
 47 facility.

48 (b) The total number of dogs and cats used for research
 49 conducted at the facility.

50 (c) The total number of dogs and cats released by the

51 facility to a society or association for the prevention of
 52 cruelty to animals for the purpose of adoption.

53 (d) The name and address of each society or association
 54 for the prevention of cruelty to animals to which a dog or cat
 55 was released by the facility.

56 (4) A research facility that violates subsection (1) may
 57 be ordered to pay a civil fine of up to \$2,000 per violation in
 58 an action to be brought by the state attorney of the county in
 59 which the violation occurred.

60 Section 2. Section 828.068, Florida Statutes, is created
 61 to read:

62 828.068 Reporting on animal testing.-

63 (1) As used in this section, the term:

64 (a) "Animal" means any live vertebrate nonhuman animal.

65 (b) "Animal testing facility" means a facility of a state
 66 agency or institution of higher education that confines and uses
 67 animals for research, education, or testing or other
 68 experimental, scientific, or medical purposes. The term does not
 69 include any facility exclusively engaging in agriculture ,as
 70 defined in s. 570.02, or any agricultural education event.

71 (c) "Animal test method" means a process or procedure that
 72 uses animals for research, education, testing, or experimental,
 73 scientific, or biomedical purposes.

74 (d) "Contract testing facility" means any partnership,
 75 corporation, association, or other legal relationship that

76 conducts research, education, testing, or experimental,
77 scientific, or biomedical studies on behalf of another entity.

78 (2) Each publicly funded animal testing facility, contract
79 testing facility, or manufacturer that uses an animal test
80 method shall submit an annual report on or before January 31,
81 2025, and each January 31 thereafter, for the preceding year to
82 the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services in a form
83 prescribed by the department. The annual report shall include
84 the following information:

85 (a) The total number of animals used for research,
86 education, testing, experimentation, scientific, or medical
87 purposes with such animals identified and grouped according to
88 species.

89 (b) The total number of animals per species used for each
90 of the following purposes:

91 1. Studies of a fundamental nature in science relating to
92 essential structures, functions, or disease processes.

93 2. Research and development of treatments, products, or
94 devices for human medicine and dentistry and for veterinary
95 medicine, excluding toxicological and other safety evaluations
96 described in subparagraph 3.

97 3. Toxicological and other safety evaluations, including,
98 but not limited to, safety evaluations of products and devices
99 for human medicine, human dentistry, and veterinary medicine.

100 4. Quality control of products and devices for human or

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101 veterinary medicine.

102 5. Education and training of scientists or health care
103 providers.

104 6. Any other purpose not described in this paragraph, to
105 be specified by the person providing the information required by
106 this section.

107 (c) A detailed description of the methodology that was
108 used for obtaining the counts of animals under paragraphs (a)
109 and (b).

110 Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2024.