HB 6027 2025

A bill to be entitled

An act relating to disposition of impounded livestock; amending s. 588.17, F.S.; removing an exception to allow adoption and humane disposal of stray cattle under certain conditions; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Subsection (4) of section 588.17, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

588.17 Disposition of impounded livestock.-

- (4) Notwithstanding the requirements of subsections (1)-(3), the sheriff or the county animal control center may offer for adoption or humanely dispose of stray livestock, excluding cattle. If the livestock is to be offered for adoption or humanely disposed of, the sheriff or the county animal control center shall:
- (a) Provide written notice to the owner, if known, advising the owner of the location where the livestock is impounded and of the amount due by reason of the impounding, and that unless the livestock is redeemed within a timeframe to be established by the sheriff or the county animal control center, which shall be a period of at least 3 business days, the livestock will be offered for adoption or humanely disposed of; or

Page 1 of 2

HB 6027 2025

(b) If the owner is unknown or cannot be located, obtain service upon the owner by publishing a notice on the sheriff's or the county animal control center's website. If the livestock is not redeemed within a timeframe to be established by the authorized agency, which shall be a period of at least 3 business days, the livestock will be offered for adoption or humanely disposed of.

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Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2025.