



# House of Representatives

General Assembly

**File No. 183**

February Session, 2018

Substitute House Bill No. 5282

*House of Representatives, April 4, 2018*

The Committee on Planning and Development reported through REP. LEMAR of the 96th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

***AN ACT CONCERNING THE TASK FORCE TO STUDY THE HUMANE TREATMENT OF ANIMALS IN MUNICIPAL AND REGIONAL SHELTERS.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 3 of public act 14-205 is repealed and the  
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

3 (a) There is established a task force to study the humane treatment  
4 of animals in municipal and regional shelters and other matters  
5 concerning the operation of such municipal and regional shelters. The  
6 task force shall consider: (1) Recommendations for the establishment of  
7 standards for the humane treatment of animals in such shelters; (2)  
8 existing education and training standards for animal control officers  
9 on current license laws; (3) rules and regulations regarding and  
10 penalties for abuse; (4) the development of a system to track persons  
11 who have been convicted of animal abuse in order to prevent such  
12 persons from acquiring animals from shelters in other municipalities

13 or states; (5) the establishment of standards for such shelters to use  
14 when evaluating potential adopters for such animals; (6) the  
15 establishment of rules and responsibilities for volunteer groups that  
16 work with such shelters and animal control officers; and (7) the  
17 creation of a framework to coordinate the efforts of local humane  
18 organizations with volunteer groups, foster groups and municipal and  
19 regional animal shelters.

20 (b) In addition to the Commissioner of Agriculture or the  
21 commissioner's designee, the task force shall consist of the following  
22 members:

23 (1) Two appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives,  
24 one of whom shall be a member of a local animal welfare advocacy  
25 organization and one whom shall be a sworn officer of a municipal  
26 police department;

27 (2) Two appointed by the president pro tempore of the Senate, one  
28 of whom shall be an animal control officer and one who shall be a  
29 representative of the judicial branch;

30 (3) One appointed by the majority leader of the House of  
31 Representatives, who shall be a chief elected official from a town with  
32 a population of more than twenty-five thousand persons;

33 (4) One appointed by the majority leader of the Senate, who shall be  
34 a licensed veterinarian;

35 (5) One appointed by the minority leader of the House of  
36 Representatives, who shall be a person who volunteers to work with  
37 municipal animal shelters and animal control officers;

38 (6) One appointed by the minority leader of the Senate, who shall be  
39 a chief elected official from a town with a population of twenty-five  
40 thousand persons or less;

41 (7) One appointed jointly by the speaker of the House of  
42 Representatives and the president pro tempore of the Senate, who shall

43 be a member of the General Assembly; and

44 (8) One appointed jointly by the minority leader of the House of  
45 Representatives and the minority leader of the Senate, who shall be a  
46 member of the General Assembly.

47 (c) Any member of the task force appointed pursuant to subsection  
48 (b) of this section may be a member of the General Assembly.

49 (d) All appointments to the task force shall be made not later than  
50 thirty days after the effective date of this section. Any vacancy shall be  
51 filled by the appointing authority.

52 (e) The speaker of the House of Representatives and the president  
53 pro tempore of the Senate shall select the chairpersons of the task force  
54 from among the members of the task force. Such chairpersons shall  
55 schedule the first meeting of the task force, which shall be held not  
56 later than sixty days after the effective date of this section.  
57 Notwithstanding the provisions of section 2-15 of the general statutes,  
58 no member of the task force shall receive mileage reimbursement or a  
59 transportation allowance for traveling to or from a meeting of the task  
60 force.

61 (f) The administrative staff of the joint standing committee of the  
62 General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to local  
63 governments shall serve as administrative staff of the task force.

64 (g) Not later than January 1, [2015] 2019, the task force shall submit  
65 a report on its findings and recommendations to the joint standing  
66 committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters  
67 relating to local governments and the environment, in accordance with  
68 the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes. The task force  
69 shall terminate on the date that it submits such report or January 1,  
70 [2015] 2019, whichever is later.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

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Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	PA 14-205, Sec. 3
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**PD**      *Joint Favorable Subst.*

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

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***OFA Fiscal Note******State Impact:*** None***Municipal Impact:*** None***Explanation***

The bill extends the reporting deadline of the previously established task force to study the humane treatment of animals in municipal and regional shelters. The task force shall submit its findings and recommendations to the environment committee by January 1, 2019.

This bill has no fiscal impact as PA 17-236 prohibits transportation allowances for task force members.

***The Out Years******State Impact:*** None***Municipal Impact:*** None

**OLR Bill Analysis**

**sHB 5282**

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**SUMMARY**

The Office of Legislative Research does not analyze Special Acts.

**COMMITTEE ACTION**

Planning and Development Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 20 Nay 2 (03/16/2018)