



State of Connecticut
GENERAL ASSEMBLY
STATE CAPITOL
300 CAPITOL AVENUE
HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT 06106-1591

Legislative Task Force on the Humane Treatment of Animals in Regional and Municipal Shelters

AGENDA

Friday, August 11, 2017

State of Connecticut Legislative Office Building (LOB)
300 Capital Avenue, Room 1C
Hartford, CT 06106

2:00 pm in Room 1C of the LOB

- i. Call meeting to order
- ii. Public comment relative to the agenda
- iii. Public overview of task force
- iv. Member introduction
- v. A review of our work previously done
- vi. New Business
 - a. Develop follow up plan
 - b. Review future meeting dates
- vii. Open Forum
 - a. Commission member feedback and suggestions
- viii. Public comment
- ix. Adjourn

Connecticut Task Force for the Humane Treatment of Animals in Municipal and Regional Shelters

**Toward the consideration of a bill to require spaying and neutering all adoptable dogs and cats
as part of the adoption process**

Sample language for a spay/neuter bill

updated 12/2/2015

The animal control officer, in a way that is feasible for the daily operations of animal control, shall ensure that all adoptable dogs and cats, as part of the adoption process, are spayed/neutered before the new adopter takes possession of the dog or cat, making use of the Animal Population Control Program state voucher system as needed. Spay/neuter surgery may take place after the newly adopted dog or cat leaves the animal shelter but before the animal is in the permanent possession of the adopter. Animals that, upon adoption, are too young and sick to undergo a sterilization procedure will be granted an extension until the appropriate time.

Proposed language:

22-332 (b) if such dog or other animal is not claimed by and released to the owner within seven days after the date of publication, the municipal animal control officer, upon find such dog or other animal to be ins satisfactory health, may have a licensed veterinarian spay or neuter such dog and sell such dog or other animal to any person who satisfied such officer that she/he can give it a good home and proper care. The municipal animal control officer may retain possession of such dog or other animal for such additional period of time as she/he may deem advisable in order to place such dog or other animal as a pet and may have a licensed veterinarian spay or neuter such dog. If ~~within~~ after such period, any dog or other animal is not claimed by and released to the owner or keeper or purchased as a pet, the officer shall cause such dog or other animal to be ~~mercifully killed~~ euthanized by a licensed veterinarian or ~~disposed of as the State Veterinarian may direct~~. Provided that no reasonable alternatives are available and the requirements of subsections (1) and (2) of this section are met.

- (1) Animal control officers shall ensure that the following conditions are met before a dog or other animal is euthanized:
 - a. The holding period for the dog or other animal required by this chapter has expired;
 - b. There are no empty cages, kennels or other living environments in the shelter that are suitable for the dog or other animal;
 - c. A foster home is not available
 - d. No other animal rescue organization or regional municipal shelter with whom the animal control officer has a trusted relationship is able to take the dog or other animal; and
 - e. The animal control officer certifies that the above conditions are met and that such officer has no other reasonable alternative.

- (2) Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter to the contrary, a dog or other animal may be euthanized immediately if necessary to alleviate undue suffering or to protect shelter staff and/or other shelter animals for a dog or other animal's severe aggression or contagious deadly health condition. The determination of whether euthanasia is necessary pursuant to this subsection shall be made by a licensed veterinarian or, in cases of extreme aggression, in immediate consultation with a licensed animal behaviorist and in consultation with and under the approval of, the animal control officer's supervisor on a case by case basis.