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 DIGEST

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SB 64 Reengrossed

2017 Regular Session

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Present law requires animal shelters to be inspected at least once every six months by an authorized representative of the parish in which it is located.

Proposed law retains present law and further requires each parish to notify the director of the animal control agency or shelter of the inspector's name in writing.

Proposed law requires inspectors and shelter personnel to annually attend training offered by an organization that provides accredited continuing education courses regarding shelter safety, animal welfare, and state compliance procedures, such as the Louisiana Animal Control Association. Provides, however, that the training requirement shall apply only if an online training option is available.

Present law (R.S. 3:2463-2465) provides for animal shelter minimum standards and operating procedures.

Proposed law retains present law.

Proposed law defines "social media account" means an Internet-based service that allows individuals to do the following:

- (1) Construct a public or semi-public profile within a bounded system created by the service.
- (2) Create a list of other users with whom they share a connection within the system.
- (3) View and navigate their list of connections and those made by others within the system.

Present law requires shelters to be inspected at least every six months by an authorized parish representative and authorizes additional inspections be made promptly upon receipt of a complaint. Proposed law retains present law.

Proposed law requires the parish to notify the director of the animal control agency or shelter of the inspector's name in writing. Requires each individual authorized to conduct shelter inspections to annually attend training provided by an organization providing accredited continuing education courses and further provides that the requirement for such training shall only apply if an online training option is available. Requires the training be approved by the state veterinarian.

Proposed law requires shelter personnel to annually attend the same training as shelter inspectors and provides that such training requirement shall apply only if an online training option is available. Requires the training be approved by the state veterinarian.

Proposed law authorizes any animal shelter that maintains a social media account or a website to post pictures of every animal that enters the shelter upon intake and again prior to euthanasia of the animal.

Effective Aug. 1, 2017.

(Amends R.S. 3:2463(C) and (E); Adds R.S. 3:2462(6) and 2465(E))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by Senate

Committee Amendments Proposed by Senate Committee on Agriculture, Forestry, Aquaculture, and Rural Development to the original bill

1. Define the terms "severely injured" and "terminally ill".
2. Expand the training requirement for inspectors and shelter personnel to include organizations that offer accredited continuing education courses regarding shelter safety, animal welfare, and state compliance procedures.
3. Exempt certain cats and severely injured or terminally ill animals from the seventy-two hour minimum hold requirement.

Senate Floor Amendments to engrossed bill

1. Remove the definitions of "severely injured" and "terminally ill".
2. Add a provision that the annual training requirement for individuals authorized to conduct shelter inspections and shelter personnel shall only apply only if an online training option is available.
3. Delete the provision requiring a minimum 72-hour hold for any animal seized while running at large and bearing no identification prior to such animal becoming property of the animal shelter or animal control agency.
4. Delete the provisions exempting certain animals from the minimum 72-hour hold.

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Agriculture, Forestry, Aquaculture, and Rural Development to the reengrossed bill:

1. Mandate that all annual training required in proposed law be approved by the state veterinarian.