HLS 18RS-1113

2018 Regular Session

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 44

BY REPRESENTATIVE FOIL

ANIMALS: Urges and requests local governmental subdivisions to adopt ordinances to define and regulate proper shelters for animals

1	A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION
2	To urge and request local governmental subdivisions to adopt ordinances to provide
3	definitions for what constitutes proper shelters for animals and provide for penalties
4	for leaving animals outside without proper shelter.
5	WHEREAS, animals are entitled to kind and respectful treatment from humans and
6	must be protected under the law; and
7	WHEREAS, animals left outside without proper shelter during inclement weather
8	are subject to illness, physical harm, and death; and
9	WHEREAS, R.S. 14:102(5) defines "proper shelter" as providing each animal with
10	adequate shelter from the elements as required to prevent unnecessary or unjustifiable
11	suffering by the animal; and
12	WHEREAS, R.S. 14:102.1(A)(1)(c), in pertinent part, provides that any individual
13	having charge, custody, or possession of any animal who unjustifiably fails to provide it with
14	proper shelter shall be guilty of simple cruelty to animals; and
15	WHEREAS, Louisiana law does not provide specific requirements for what
16	constitutes adequate shelter; and
17	WHEREAS, the definition of "proper shelter" may vary across the state depending
18	on factors such as geographic location, population density, and the likelihood of weather
19	conditions such as flooding, tropical storms, hurricanes, tornadoes, and extreme
20	temperatures; and

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WHEREAS, local governmental subdivisions across the state have different entities charged with the enforcement of animal-related ordinances and various levels of funding dedicated to enforcement of the ordinances; and 4 WHEREAS, local governments are best equipped to determine the needs and 5 limitations of their communities as it relates to the protection of animals. 6 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby 7 urge and request local governmental subdivisions to adopt ordinances to provide definitions 8 for what constitutes proper shelters for animals and provide for penalties for leaving animals 9 outside without proper shelter. 10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the Louisiana Municipal Association and the Police Jury Association of Louisiana.

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

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Urges and requests local governmental subdivisions to adopt ordinances to provide definitions for what constitutes proper shelters for animals and provide for penalties for leaving animals outside without proper shelter.