

2022 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 89

BY REPRESENTATIVE GEYMANN

ANIMALS: Urges and requests the local governing authority of Calcasieu Parish and the Calcasieu Parish Animal Services and Adoption Center to become a "no kill" animal shelter

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A RESOLUTION

2 To urge and request the local governing authority of Calcasieu Parish and the Calcasieu

3 Parish Animal Services and Adoption Center to become a "no kill" shelter by

4 adopting policies and programs which provide alternatives to euthanizing healthy

5 dogs and cats prior to December 31, 2025.

6 WHEREAS, safe and humane communities for the citizens and pets of Louisiana is

7 a universal goal; and

8 WHEREAS, according to the Best Friends Animal Society, a national sanctuary for

9 homeless and special needs animals with lifesaving centers and partners across the nation,

10 Louisiana ranks sixth nationally in the number of dogs and cats euthanized in shelters; and

11 WHEREAS, Louisiana has the third highest euthanasia rate of dogs and cats per

12 capita of 3.29 per one thousand population versus the national rate of 1.10 per one thousand;

13 and

14 WHEREAS, the total number of deaths of dogs and cats in 2021 was fifteen thousand

15 two hundred eighty-eight, which is three times less than in 2019; and

16 WHEREAS, thirty-one percent of the dogs and cats that enter Louisiana shelters do

17 not make it out alive and less than one-third of the shelters in Louisiana are designated as

18 "no kill"; and

1 WHEREAS, many of the pets that are euthanized each year are healthy or treatable
2 pets that could be placed in homes or feral cats that could be trapped, neutered, and released;
3 and

4 WHEREAS, a national survey conducted for the Best Friends Animal Society
5 revealed that seventy-one percent of citizens do not want cats impounded and euthanized;
6 and

7 WHEREAS, many Louisiana shelters are implementing new and innovative
8 programs and policies to provide alternatives to euthanizing dogs and cats; and

9 WHEREAS, these policies and programs include volunteer foster care networks;
10 adoption programs; medical and behavioral programs; public education and awareness
11 programs; feral cat trap, neuter, vaccinate, and return programs; animal socialization
12 programs; and many others; and

13 WHEREAS, the Best Friends Animal Society has introduced a humane initiative to
14 end the euthanization of dogs and cats in shelters in the United States by 2025.

15 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the
16 Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request the local governing authority of
17 Calcasieu Parish and the Calcasieu Parish Animal Services and Adoption Center to become
18 a "no kill" shelter by adopting policies and programs which provide alternatives to
19 euthanizing healthy dogs and cats prior to December 31, 2025.

20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Calcasieu Parish Animal Services and
21 Adoption Center should make every attempt possible to identify or validate ownership of an
22 animal prior to any euthanasia of an animal takes place.

23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the
24 local governing authority of Calcasieu Parish and the manager of the Calcasieu Parish
25 Animal Services and Adoption Center.

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)]

HR 89 Engrossed

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Geymann

Urges and requests the local governing authority of Calcasieu Parish and the Calcasieu Parish Animal Services and Adoption Center to become a "no kill" shelter by adopting policies and programs which provide alternatives to euthanizing healthy dogs and cats prior to December 31, 2025.