

**ASSEMBLY, No. 1814**

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**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**  
**218th LEGISLATURE**

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PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2018 SESSION

**Sponsored by:**

**Assemblyman TIM EUSTACE**  
**District 38 (Bergen and Passaic)**

**SYNOPSIS**

Designates adoptable dog as State Dog.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel.



A1814 EUSTACE

1 AN ACT designating the adoptable dog as the State Dog and  
2 supplementing chapter 9A of Title 52 of the Revised Statutes.  
3  
4 WHEREAS, Studies suggest that dog ownership can help improve a  
5 person's mental acuity, mobility, and cardiovascular health by  
6 reducing stress and increasing their levels of exercise; and  
7 WHEREAS, Studies have also shown that dog ownership has benefits  
8 for children by increasing social skills, development, and behavior,  
9 particularly for those with developmental disabilities; and  
10 WHEREAS, According to the New Jersey Department of Health,  
11 thousands of dogs are taken into animal shelters each year and in  
12 2015, over 3,000 dogs were euthanized at such facilities; and  
13 WHEREAS, Responsible pet ownership, which includes the spaying  
14 and neutering of dogs not being actively bred, will help reduce the  
15 number of unwanted dogs that are euthanized each year; and  
16 WHEREAS, Thousands of dogs are currently available for adoption in  
17 animal shelters, humane societies, and private rescue groups; and  
18 WHEREAS, The State of New Jersey supports adoption through a  
19 shelter instead of purchasing through a pet store; and  
20 WHEREAS, The State of New Jersey recognizes the benefits of dog  
21 ownership and wishes to promote animal rescue and adoption; and  
22 WHEREAS, The adoptable dog is designated as the official State Dog  
23 of New Jersey; now, therefore,

24  
25 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State  
26 of New Jersey:

- 27  
28 1. The adoptable dog is designated as the New Jersey State  
29 Dog.  
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31 2. This act shall take effect immediately.  
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34 STATEMENT

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36 Studies suggest that dog ownership can help improve mental  
37 acuity, mobility, and cardiovascular health by reducing stress and  
38 increasing levels of exercise. Studies have also shown that dog  
39 ownership has benefits for children by increasing social skills,  
40 development, and behavior. Thousands of dogs are taken into  
41 shelters each year and during 2015, over 3,000 dogs were  
42 euthanized. Thousands of dogs are currently available for adoption  
43 in animal shelters, humane societies, and private rescue groups.  
44 New Jersey supports adoption through a shelter instead of  
45 purchasing through a pet store and recognizes the benefits of dog  
46 ownership. The adoptable dog is designated as the official State  
47 Dog of New Jersey.