

[Second Reprint]

SENATE, No. 2826

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
218th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED JULY 23, 2018

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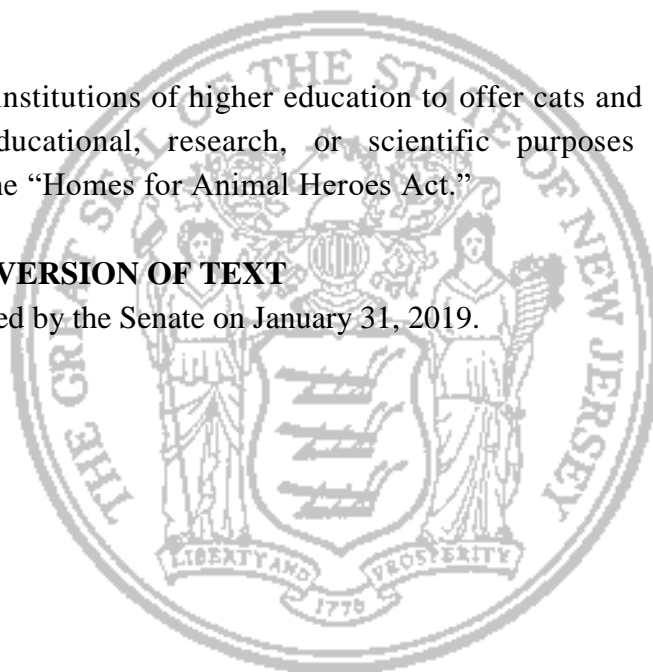
Senator Addiego, Assemblywoman Murphy and Assemblyman Johnson

SYNOPSIS

Requires institutions of higher education to offer cats and dogs no longer used for educational, research, or scientific purposes for adoption; designated the “Homes for Animal Heroes Act.”

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As amended by the Senate on January 31, 2019.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 1/14/2020)

1 AN ACT concerning the disposition of cats and dogs used by
 2 institutions of higher education for educational, research, or
 3 scientific purposes, ¹designated the “Homes for Animal Heroes
 4 Act.”¹ and supplementing Title 18A of the New Jersey Statutes.

5
 6 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
 7 of New Jersey:

8
 9 1. a. An institution of higher education ¹**[**, or a facility that
 10 conducts research in collaboration with an institution of higher
 11 education,**]**¹ that uses cats or dogs for educational, research, or
 12 scientific purposes ¹**[**, before euthanizing a cat or dog that is no
 13 longer to be used for such purposes,**]** ², or a research institution that
 14 contracts with an institution of higher education for the use of cats
 15 or dogs for educational, research, or scientific purposes,² shall
 16 ²**[**assess**]** require the assessment of the health of² a cat or dog and
 17 determine whether it is suitable for adoption ²**[**, when the cat or dog
 18 is no longer needed for educational, research, or scientific
 19 purposes**]** after the completion of any testing or research involving
 20 the cat or dog² . If the institution ²**[**of higher education**]**²
 21 determines that the cat or dog is suitable for adoption, the
 22 institution ²**[**of higher education¹**]**² shall ¹**[**first**]**¹ offer the cat or
 23 dog to an animal rescue organization ¹or private individual¹ for
 24 adoption ¹**[**, provided that euthanizing the cat or dog is not required
 25 for health or safety reasons**]**¹. An institution ¹**[**or facility**]**¹
 26 required to offer cats or dogs ¹**[**to an animal rescue organization**]**
 27 for adoption¹ pursuant to this section may enter into an agreement
 28 with an animal rescue organization ¹or private individual¹ to
 29 implement this section on an on-going basis.

30 b. An institution ¹**[**or facility**]**¹ that provides a cat or dog to an
 31 animal rescue organization ¹or private individual¹ pursuant to this
 32 section shall be immune from any civil liability arising from the
 33 transfer of the cat or dog, provided the institution ¹**[**or facility**]**¹ has
 34 acted in good faith concerning the ¹**[**health and physical condition
 35 of**]** suitability of¹ the cat or dog ¹for adoption¹.

36 ¹c. An institution ²**[**of higher education**]**² required to offer cats
 37 or dogs for adoption pursuant to this section may establish
 38 guidelines or other qualifications in order to determine if a cat or
 39 dog is suitable for adoption, or to determine whether an animal
 40 rescue organization or private individual is qualified to receive a cat
 41 or dog for adoption pursuant to this section.¹

EXPLANATION – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets **[thus]** in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows:

¹Senate SEN committee amendments adopted September 13, 2018.

²Senate floor amendments adopted January 31, 2019.

1 **1** **[c.] d.** As used in this section, “animal rescue organization”
2 means the same as that term is defined in section 1 of P.L.1941,
3 c.151 (C.4:19-15.1).

4

5 2. This act shall take effect immediately.