

ASSEMBLY, No. 4504

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED AUGUST 10, 2020

Sponsored by:

Assemblywoman CAROL A. MURPHY

District 7 (Burlington)

Assemblyman JAMEL C. HOLLEY

District 20 (Union)

SYNOPSIS

Establishes "Stray Animal Study Commission."

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 8/10/2020)

1 AN ACT establishing the "Stray Animal Study Commission."

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3 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
4 of New Jersey:

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6 1. a. There is created, within the Department of Health, the
7 "Stray Animal Study Commission."

8 b. The study commission shall consist of 11 members as
9 follows:

10 (1) The Commissioner of Health, the Commissioner of
11 Community Affairs, and the Executive Director of the State
12 Commission of Investigation, or their designees, who shall serve ex
13 officio;

14 (2) A representative of the Humane Society of the United States,
15 a representative of the American Society for the Prevention of
16 Cruelty to Animals, a representative of the New Jersey Animal
17 Control Officers Association, and a representative of a county
18 prosecutor's office, each of whom shall be appointed by the
19 Governor; and

20 (3) four directors or chief operating officers of animal shelters
21 or pounds in the State, of whom one shall be appointed by the
22 President of the Senate, one shall be appointed by the Minority
23 Leader of the Senate, one shall be appointed by the Speaker of the
24 General Assembly, and one shall to be appointed by the Minority
25 Leader of the General Assembly.

26 c. Any vacancy in the membership of the commission shall be
27 filled in the same manner as the original appointment.

28 d. Members of the commission shall be appointed within 30
29 days after the effective date of this act, and shall hold their initial
30 organizational meeting as soon as practicable, but no later than 30
31 days following appointment of a majority of its authorized
32 membership. At the initial organizational meeting, the members
33 shall elect a chairperson and vice-chairperson from among the
34 members of the study commission by a majority vote of the
35 members present.

36 e. Members of the study commission shall serve without
37 compensation.

38 f. A majority of all the authorized members of the study
39 commission shall constitute a quorum, and no action of the study
40 commission shall be taken without the affirmative vote of a
41 majority of all the authorized members of the study commission,
42 except for the election of the chairperson and vice-chairperson at
43 the initial organizational meeting pursuant to subsection d. of this
44 section.

45 g. The Department of Health shall provide primary staff
46 support to the study commission.

A4504 MURPHY, HOLLEY

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1 The bill requires the study commission to consult with
2 professionals in the field of animal control and in the scientific and
3 academic community for expertise and input concerning its
4 purpose. Finally, the bill directs the study commission to prepare a
5 report on its findings, conclusions, and recommendations and to
6 submit the report to the Governor and to the Legislature no later
7 than 18 months following its organizational meeting.

WITHDRAWN