AB □□□

ASSEMBLYMEMBER ALEX LEE

SCIL
Social Compassion in Legislation

THIS BILL

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BACKGROUND

Current law requires each city, city and county, or county to maintain or provide for the maintenance of an animal shelter system and a rabies control program. Additionally, current law requires the Department of Public Health to collect rabies control program data from each local entity but does not 6$33)69(=(□$z-7) categories W')6xFx)9z□ -7xW3x3(Section 121690 of the California Health and Safety Code).

PROBLEM

From 1995 through 2016, the Department collected all of the categories of data required under this bill from all animal shelters(z94(9)=7(-9(-(("(x3(S3)=$-7)□=S3x6.

Starting in 2017, the Department reduced the categories of data to exclude those pertaining to animals received and discharged□3)("xz5W-(N)7$39)xW7)9 (YN$z-7)□)U-)z-□ $F□(3xF$Yzx(W=$-')Y'$'=3(-x$z'Y$S3)4□(z9-'7)Y)-=$□ S)W-9xY)6=-z9xz5=$6$4S(-=7)□'Y$S3)4□□

Cities and counties invest over $400,000,000 annually to operate our state's animal shelters, with much of this money coming from the state's general fund. Additionally, animal rescues pour millions of dollars into supporting shelters when there is lack of space for animals.

Yet, the data these entities(z 9$-7)YW-(N)7$39)YrW on to direct these resources is no longer available. Without proper reporting requirements, it is impossible to get accurate, reliable data on the numbers of animals entering and exiting shelters□(z9Y)W6=)W and their outcomes.

This data is important to ensuring that resources are9xY)6-)9□ xz-7)□4$W-x4'(6-F=34(zz)Y□optxmizedto help pets find their forever homes(z9-$7)3'W$3")=7)□)=$")Y'$'=3(-x$z□ 'Y$S3)4.

299x-x$z(33I(W')W("'x-7□ 1$"x9□ (z9□6=Y)Y=3I□"x-7□ -7)("x(z□F3=$-+SY)(N□j$$z$-x69xW)(W$)=SY)(N6(z□ 7(")9)"(W-(-xz5)FF)6-W$z□W$6x)-IPz9□)YW-(z9xz=5)□F3$)"□ $F(zx4(3W-7Y$-57$-$=YW-(-6$=39S)6Yx-x6(3=7)□)")z-□W-Yx(6=x$z□xWz))9)9=$6$z-(xz(z$-+SY)(N□

SOLUTION

Californians care deeply about the welfare of shelter animals. In fact, the official state pet is the "Shelter Pet." As noted above, the state, local jurisdictions, and nonprofits invest hundreds of millions of dollars on our shelter system to save animals' lives.

AB 631 will ensure that the state and other entities are able to direct funding efficiently to shelters with the greatest need, while giving policy makers a more complete picture of the pet overpopulation problem in order to make informed policy decisions.

Specifically, the bill requires the below data to be collected and posted by category on it's website or a third-party website and kept available for at least five years. The bill also encourages the data to be made available in a downloadable spreadsheet format.

- f7)□umber of domestic dogs□cats(z9$-7)Y(zx4(3W received by (zx4(3W7)3-)YW(zx)W6=)W including□but not limited to-7$W)□surrendered by owner, -(N)z□xz(W□ W-Y(b□transferred from other shelters.
- Total number of dogW□cats(z9□$-7)Y(zx4(3W discharged by (zx4(3W7)3-)YW(z9)W6=)W)'(Y(=)9SI□ 6(=)5$Yx)W□cluding, but not limited to-7$W)□ reclaimed by owner,□adopted, -Y(zWF)YY)9(z$-7)Y organization,□uthanized, died□z6(Y), or 9)(9=!$z□ (YYx"(3.

SUPPORT

Social Compassion in Legislation (Sponsor)

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