

HOUSE COMMITTEE OF REFERENCE REPORT

Chair of Committee

February 26, 2024
Date

Committee on Agriculture, Water & Natural Resources.

After consideration on the merits, the Committee recommends the following:

SB24-045 be amended as follows, and as so amended, be referred to the Committee of the Whole with favorable recommendation:

1 Amend reengrossed bill, page 2, line 3, strike "(3)(e)" and substitute
2 "(3)(e); and **add** (2.3) and (2.5)".

3 Page 2, after line 13, insert:

4 "(2.3) (a) FOR AN ANIMAL BORN IN COLORADO, IF A LICENSED
5 VETERINARIAN DECLARES IN WRITING THAT A STERILIZATION PROCEDURE
6 COULD JEOPARDIZE THE HEALTH OF THE DOG OR CAT, THE PROCEDURE
7 MAY BE DELAYED UNTIL SUCH TIME THAT A VETERINARIAN DETERMINES
8 THAT THE DOG OR CAT IS FIT TO UNDERGO THE STERILIZATION PROCEDURE.
9 AT SUCH TIME, THE PROSPECTIVE OWNER SHALL HAVE THE ANIMAL
10 STERILIZED. IF THE DETERMINATION OF UNFITNESS FOR STERILIZATION HAS
11 BEEN MADE PRIOR TO RELEASE, THE ANIMAL SHELTER OR PET ANIMAL
12 RESCUE MAY RELEASE THE DOG OR CAT TO THE PROSPECTIVE OWNER,
13 SUBJECT TO THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SUBSECTION (2.3).

14 (b) IF A VETERINARIAN LICENSED IN COLORADO DECLARES IN
15 WRITING THAT A STERILIZATION PROCEDURE IS LIKELY TO CAUSE A
16 SECONDARY ILLNESS, INJURY, IMPAIRMENT, OR PHYSICAL CONDITION THAT
17 INVOLVES INPATIENT CARE OR ONGOING OUTPATIENT TREATMENT, THE
18 PROCEDURE MAY BE DELAYED UNTIL SUCH TIME THAT A VETERINARIAN
19 DETERMINES THAT THE DOG OR CAT IS FIT TO UNDERGO THE STERILIZATION
20 PROCEDURE. IF THE DETERMINATION OF UNFITNESS FOR STERILIZATION
21 DUE TO JEOPARDIZING THE HEALTH OF THE ANIMAL HAS BEEN MADE PRIOR
22 TO RELEASE, THE ANIMAL SHELTER OR PET ANIMAL RESCUE MAY RELEASE
23 THE DOG OR CAT TO THE PROSPECTIVE OWNER, SUBJECT TO THIS
24 SUBSECTION (2.3)(b).

25 (2.5) FOR THE PURPOSES OF THE EXEMPTIONS IN SUBSECTIONS (2)
26 AND (2.3) OF THIS SECTION:

1 (a) A VETERINARIAN SHALL BASE A DETERMINATION OF UNFITNESS
2 ON SPECIFIC DETAILS REGARDING THE SPECIFIC ANIMAL FOR WHICH AN
3 EXEMPTION IS REQUESTED AND SHALL NOT INCLUDE MULTIPLE ANIMAL
4 EXEMPTION REQUESTS IN ONE DETERMINATION.
5 (b) THE COMMISSIONER MAY SUBMIT A SIGNED COMPLAINT TO THE
6 STATE BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICINE IF THE COMMISSIONER HAS
7 REASON TO BELIEVE THAT A VETERINARIAN'S WRITTEN DECLARATION
8 SUBMITTED PURSUANT TO SUBSECTIONS (2) OR (2.3) OF THIS SECTION IS IN
9 VIOLATION OF SECTION 12-315-112.
10 (c) AT THE TIME OF LICENSE RENEWAL, EACH ANIMAL SHELTER OR
11 PET ANIMAL RESCUE SHALL PROVIDE THE DEPARTMENT WITH
12 INFORMATION REGARDING ANIMALS EXEMPTED PURSUANT TO
13 SUBSECTIONS (2) AND (2.3) OF THIS SECTION. THE ANIMAL SHELTER OR PET
14 ANIMAL RESCUE SHALL PROVIDE THE INFORMATION IN THE FORM
15 PROVIDED BY THE DEPARTMENT AND SHALL INCLUDE THE BREED, AGE,
16 CATEGORY OF EXEMPTION, REASONING FOR THE EXEMPTION, AND NAME
17 AND LICENSE NUMBER OF THE VETERINARIAN LICENSED IN COLORADO
18 THAT MADE THE EXEMPTION DETERMINATION."

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