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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2011

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A N A C T

RELATING TO ANIMALS AND ANIMALS AND ANIMAL HUSBANDRY - ANIMAL
CARE

Introduced By: Senators Tassoni, P Fogarty, and DeVall

Date Introduced: January 27, 2011

Referred To: Senate Environment & Agriculture

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Chapter 4-19 of the General Laws entitled "Animal Care" is hereby
2 amended by adding thereto the following section:

3 **4-19-22. Animal Registry.** – (a) There shall be established and maintained by all animal
4 shelters (as is defined in subdivision 4-19-2(7)) a registry of Rhode Island incorporated animal
5 organizations, municipal animal shelters and private animal shelters willing to accept animals,
6 including breed-specific rescues, for the purpose of adoption or long-term placement. The registry
7 shall include the types and breeds of animals about which an organization wishes to be contacted
8 and shall be available and accessible to the general public on the internet.

9 (b) In addition to any other applicable law regarding the disposition of animals, animal
10 shelters shall meet the following conditions before euthanizing an animal pursuant to this chapter:

11 (1) The holding period for the animal has expired; and

12 (2) There are no empty cages, kennels or other living environments in the shelter suitable
13 for the animal; and

14 (3) A foster home is not available through another municipal or private animal shelter or
15 Rhode Island incorporated animal organization; and

16 (4) Another municipal or private animal shelter or Rhode Island incorporated animal
17 organization is unwilling to accept the animal; and

18 (5) The animal care or control manager of the animal shelter has certified that the above

1 [conditions have been met and that he/she has no other reasonable alternative.](#)

2 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF
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1 This act would require that animal shelters establish a registry of all organizations willing
2 to accept animals for adoption or long-term placement, and would further require that animal
3 shelters met certain conditions prior to euthanizing an animal.

4 This act would take effect upon passage.

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