

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

# HOUSE BILL NO. 755

102ND GENERAL ASSEMBLY

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INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE SCHWADRON.

1605H.011

DANA RADEMAN MILLER, Chief Clerk

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## AN ACT

To amend chapter 273, RSMo, by adding thereto one new section relating to inducing the death of dogs and cats, with a penalty provision.

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*Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the state of Missouri, as follows:*

Section A. Chapter 273, RSMo, is amended by adding thereto one new section, to be known as section 273.361, to read as follows:

**273.361. 1. Except as provided in subsection 2 of this section, the sole method of inducing the death of a dog or a cat in an animal control agency, animal shelter, or pound, as such terms are defined in section 273.325, shall be the injection of sodium pentobarbital or a derivative thereof. The use of any other method to induce the death of a dog or a cat including, but not limited to, the use of nonanesthetic inhalants such as carbon monoxide or carbon dioxide gas, a decompression chamber, electrocution, gunshot, blunt force trauma, or injection of a neuromuscular blocking agent, shall be an offense as provided in section 273.347.**

**2. Notwithstanding any provision of subsection 1 of this section to the contrary, any substance that is clinically proven to be as humane as sodium pentobarbital and that has been officially recognized as such by the American Veterinary Medical Association may be used in lieu of sodium pentobarbital to induce the death of a dog or a cat if the director has determined that there is a shortage of sodium pentobarbital. Any such determination made by the director shall be valid for a one-year period beginning on the date such determination was made.**

**3. Neither a chamber that uses commercially bottled carbon monoxide gas or other lethal gas nor a chamber that causes a change in body oxygen by means of altering**

EXPLANATION — Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets ~~thus~~ in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted from the law. Matter in **bold-face** type in the above bill is proposed language.

18 atmospheric pressure or that is connected to an internal combustion engine and uses the  
19 engine exhaust for inducing the death of a dog or a cat shall be lawful.

20 4. Inducing the death of a dog or a cat shall be performed by a licensed  
21 veterinarian or physician or a lay person who is properly trained in the proper and  
22 humane use of methods of inducing the death of a dog or a cat. Such lay person shall  
23 induce the death of a dog or a cat under supervision of a licensed veterinarian or  
24 physician. This subsection shall not be construed to require a veterinarian or physician  
25 to be present at the time the death of a dog or a cat is induced.

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