

ARIZONA STATE LEGISLATURE

JOINT STUDY COMMITTEE ON STATEWIDE ANIMAL CONTROL STANDARDS

Minutes of the Meeting
November 27, 2023
1:00 P.M., SHR 1

Members of the public may access a livestream of the meeting here:

<https://www.azleg.gov/videoplayer/?clientID=6361162879&eventID=2023101011>

Members Present:

Senator John Kavanagh, Chair
Senator Eva Diaz*
Dr. Nancy Bradley-Siemens
John Castaneda*
Monica Dangler*
Arleen Garcia*
Annette Lagunas*

Representative Keith Seaman
Debbie McKnight
Audra Michael
Lt. Jose Pena*
Michelle Ryan*

Members Excused:

Patty Gillmore

Representative Quang H. Nguyen, Vice Chair
Liz Olson

*Participated remotely via a teleconference platform.

Staff:

Rachel Andrews, Senate Research Analyst
Samuel Rosenberg, Senate Research Assistant Analyst
Emily Bonner, House Research Analyst
Blanca Santillan Ramos, House Research Assistant Analyst

Chairman Kavanagh called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m. and attendance was called.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Senator Kavanagh stated that without objection, the Committee minutes of November 20, 2023 stand approved.

Senator Kavanagh made opening comments.

DISCUSSION

Amendments to the ASV Guidelines

Senator Kavanagh read the Draft Committee Recommendations (Attachment A) and offered comments.

Representative Seaman offered comments.

Monica Dangler offered comments.

Senator Kavanagh offered additional comments.

Dr. Nancy Bradley-Siemens offered comments.

Senator Kavanagh continued reading the Draft Committee Recommendations (Attachment A).

Ms. Dangler offered additional comments.

Debbie McKnight answered questions posed by the Committee.

Dr. Bradley-Siemens answered questions posed by the Committee.

Ms. McKnight answered additional questions posed by the Committee.

Audra Michael answered questions posed by the Committee.

Senator Kavanagh continued reading the Draft Committee Recommendations (Attachment A) and offered additional comments.

Michelle Ryan offered comments.

The Committee offered additional comments.

Arleen Garcia offered comments.

Dr. Bradley-Siemens offered additional comments.

Ms. Garcia answered questions posed by the Committee.

Senator Kavanagh offered additional comments.

Martha German, Humane Voters of Arizona, answered questions posed by the Committee.

Senator Kavanagh offered additional comments.

Ms. German answered additional questions posed by the Committee.

Ms. McKnight offered additional comments.

Dr. Bradley-Siemens answered additional questions posed by the Committee.

Ms. Garcia offered additional comments.

Senator Kavanagh answered questions posed by the Committee.

Ms. Garcia offered additional comments.

Senator Kavanagh offered additional comments.

Dr. Bradley-Siemens offered additional comments.

Senator Kavanagh answered additional questions posed by the Committee.

Ms. Dangler offered additional comments.

Senator Kavanagh explained the document entitled "Summation/Whitepaper" (Attachment B) which was distributed by **Debra Nolen, Don't Leave Me. Org.**

Dr. Bradley-Siemens answered additional questions posed by the Committee.

The Committee offered additional comments.

Ms. McKnight offered additional comments and answered additional questions posed by the Committee.

PUBLIC TESTIMONY

M.J. Simpson, representing self, offered comments regarding the Committee discussion.

Senator Kavanagh offered comments.

Dr. Bradley-Siemens offered comments.

Senator Kavanagh offered additional comments.

Dr. Bradley-Siemens offered additional comments.

Ms. McKnight offered comments.

Ms. Simpson offered additional comments and answered questions posed by the Committee.

Dr. Bradley-Siemens offered additional comments.

Ms. Simpson answered questions posed by the Committee.

Senator Kavanagh offered additional comments.

Dr. Bradley-Siemens offered additional comments.

Ms. Garcia offered comments.

Ms. Simpson offered additional comments.

Senator Kavanagh answered questions posed by the Committee.

Dr. Bradley-Siemens answered questions posed by the Committee.

Senator Kavanagh answered additional questions posed by the Committee.

Dr. Bradley-Siemens answered additional questions posed by the Committee.

Annette Lagunas offered comments.

The Committee offered additional comments.

Dr. Bradley-Siemens answered additional questions posed by the Committee.

Senator Kavanagh answered additional questions posed by the Committee.

Debra Nolen, Don't Leave Me. Org, offered comments regarding the Committee discussion and explained the purpose of the document entitled "Summation/Whitepaper" (Attachment B).

The Committee offered additional comments.

Dr. Bradley-Siemens offered additional comments and answered additional questions posed by the Committee.

Stephanie Nichols Young, Animal Defense League of Arizona, offered comments regarding the Committee discussion.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

Senator Kavanagh moved that the Committee recommend as aspirational goals the Guidelines of the American Association of Shelter Veterinarians for public shelters in the state of Arizona. (See Attachment A of the November 13, 2023 meeting minutes.)

Senator Kavanagh moved the following five amendments be adopted:

- 1. Utilize the power of social media and technology/software to help reunite lost pets with their owners.**
- 2. Assess the viability of utilizing inmate labor, as well as increasing volunteer labor to provide more time-intensive care as outlined in the Should and Ideal categories of ASV.**
- 3. Make resources available to adopters and owners, including information about acclimating their new pet in the home, as well as where to find lower cost pet care resources.**
- 4. Prioritize in-state over out-of-state transports.**
- 5. Partner with law enforcement to ensure that stray animals picked up overnight and when the shelter is closed can be temporarily housed safely.**

The motion CARRIED by a voice vote.

Senator Kavanagh moved the following amendment be adopted:

Adoptable surrendered animals should be spayed/neutered, if necessary, as soon as possible upon intake and offered for adoption.

Ms. Michael offered comments.

The motion CARRIED by a voice vote.

Senator Kavanagh moved the following amendment be adopted:

Shelters should have volunteer programs and develop strategies for recruitment, initial and continuing training, retention appreciation events and rewards.

The motion CARRIED by a voice vote.

Senator Kavanagh moved the following amendment be adopted:

Shelters should review and examine sheltering best practices.

The Committee offered comments.

The motion CARRIED by a voice vote.

Senator Kavanagh moved the following amendment be adopted:

Shelter standards in place at each Animal Care and Control, along with any key policies and protocols, should be available to volunteers and the public.

Representative Seaman offered comments.

The motion CARRIED by a voice vote.

Senator Kavanagh moved the following amendment be adopted:

Shelters should share population data with a central repository if available to share the information and facilitate inter-shelter transfers.

The motion CARRIED by a voice vote.

The Committee offered comments.

Senator Kavanagh moved the original motion as amended. The motion CARRIED with a roll call vote of 9-3-3 (Attachment 1).

Senator Kavanagh asked if the Committee wants to meet again next week for the purposes of further amending the motion. The motion CARRIED with a roll call vote of 7-5-3 (Attachment 2).

Senator Kavanagh offered closing comments.

Ms. Lagunas offered comments.

Attached are forms noting the individuals who submitted a Speaker slip on the agenda items (Attachment C).

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:33 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jenn Dickey
Committee Secretary

(Audio recordings and attachments are on file in the Secretary of the Senate's Office/Resource Center, Room 115. Audio archives are available at <http://www.azleg.gov>)