

ARIZONA STATE LEGISLATURE

JOINT STUDY COMMITTEE ON STATEWIDE ANIMAL CONTROL STANDARDS

Minutes of the Meeting
December 11, 2023
1:30 P.M., SHR 1

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

<https://www.azleg.gov/videoplayer/?clientID=6361162879&eventID=2023121006>

Members Present:

Senator John Kavanagh, Chair	Representative Quang H. Nguyen, Vice Chair
Senator Eva Diaz*	Debbie McKnight
John Castaneda*	Audra Michael*
Monica Dangler*	Jose Pena*
Arleen Garcia*	Michelle Ryan*
Annette Lagunas*	

Members Excused:

Dr. Nancy Bradley-Siemens	Representative Keith Seaman
Patty Gillmore	Liz Olson

*Participated remotely via a teleconference platform.

Staff:

Samuel Rosenberg, Senate Research Assistant Analyst
Liam Maher, Director of Senate Research
Emily Bonner, House Research Analyst
Blanca Santillan Ramos, House Research Assistant Analyst

Chairman Kavanagh called the meeting to order at 1:39 p.m. and attendance was noted.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Senator Kavanagh stated that without objection, the Committee minutes of November 27, 2023 stand approved.

DISCUSSION

Discussion of the ASV Guidelines

Senator Kavanagh asked the Committee if there was discussion or recommendations on the guidelines for Standards of Care in Animal Shelters.

Debbie McKnight read a statement (Attachment A) of her recommendation for the Committee to discuss.

Discussion of the Formal Recommendations

The Committee discussed the recommendations and guidelines.

PUBLIC TESTIMONY

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

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

Senator Kavanagh moved the following amendment as proposed by Debbie McKnight (Attachment A) be adopted:

With the understanding that different communities have differing levels of resources and needs, the Committee supports the use of the Association of Shelter Veterinarians' Guidelines for Standards of Care in Animal Shelters and the additional recommendations adopted by the Committee as the example by which animal shelters should align their policies. The Committee acknowledges that, in order to meet all the 553 guidelines outlined in the Guidelines for Standards of Care in Animal Shelters, an enormous amount of resources, both financial and human, as well as community support would be needed. This Committee recommends that shelters use the Guidelines for Standards of Care in Animal Shelters and the guidelines adopted by the Committee as just that: guidelines by which to align their processes, procedures and resources. As resources allow, shelters should focus first on ceasing any unacceptable practices and then work to achieve the guidelines labeled must, should and ideal.

The motion CARRIED with a roll call vote of 10-0-5 (Attachment 1).

Annette Lagunas posed a question to the Committee.

Attached is form noting the individual who submitted a Speaker slip on the agenda items (Attachment B).

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Tracey Gardner
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>)