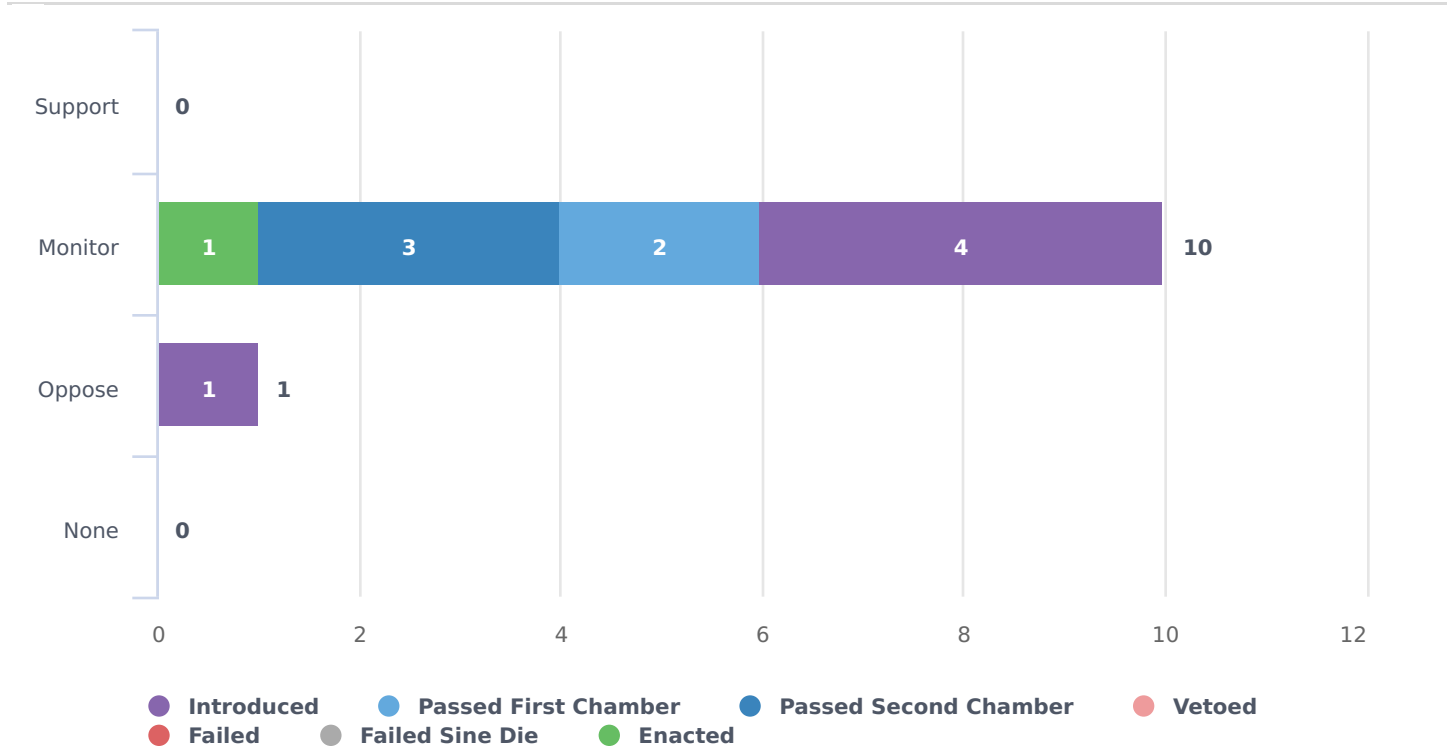


California - 2023 Legislative Overview

Last Updated: September 25, 2023

Bills by Last Status and Position



Bill State: CA (11)

Title

Dogs and cats: California Spay-Neuter Fund.

Description

AB 240, as amended, Kalra. Dogs and cats: California Spay-Neuter Fund. (1) Existing law establishes the Pure Pet Food Act of 1969, which is administered by the State Department of Public Health. Under the act, every person who manufactures a processed pet food, as defined, in California is required to first obtain a license from, and every person who manufactures a processed pet food for import into California from another state is required to first obtain a registration certificate from, the State Department of Public Health. Existing law excludes from the definition of "processed pet food" fresh or frozen pet foods subject to the control of the Department of Food and Agriculture. Under existing law, an annual license or registration certificate shall only be issued when certain conditions are met, including, among others, when the applicant submits to the State Department of Public Health the label that would be attached to the container of each type of processed pet food. Existing law also provides that, unless a different penalty is expressly provided, a violation of any provision of the Food and Agricultural Code is a misdemeanor. This bill would require the Department of Food and Agriculture to collect, on an annual basis, a charge of \$200 from a manufacturer of dog and cat food, as defined, for each label submitted by the manufacturer to the State Department of Public Health for dog and cat food, as provided. The bill would require the State Department of Public Health to, at the request of the Department of Food and Agriculture, provide the Department of Food and Agriculture with the information necessary to administer the above-mentioned provision. The bill would require a manufacturer of dog and cat food that has less than \$75,000 in verifiable gross annual sales to instead only pay a single annual charge of \$200 to the Department of Food and Agriculture. The bill would establish the California Spay-Neuter Fund in the State Treasury and would require these moneys to be transferred into the fund. The bill would continuously appropriate all moneys in the fund to the Department of Food and Agriculture without regard to fiscal years, as provided, thereby making an appropriation. (2) Existing law prohibits a public animal control agency or shelter, society for the prevention of cruelty to animals shelter, humane society shelter, or rescue group from selling or giving away any cat or dog that has not been spayed or neutered, except as provided. Existing law also requires the owner of a nonspayed or unneutered cat or dog that is impounded by a city or county animal control agency or shelter, society for the prevention of cruelty to animals, or humane society to receive a specified fine. This bill would require the Depar... (click bill link to see more).

Primary Sponsors

Ash Kalra

Bill Summary: Last edited by Jeff Plummer at Jan 17, 2023, 11:28 PM

Amends Division 14.8 (Animals) of CA Food & Agricultural Code by adding a new Part 3 (California Spay-Neuter Fund) to: 1) Impose a surcharge on retail sellers of dog and cat food upon each dollar of dog and cat food sold in the state; and 2) Establish the California Spay-Neuter Fund in the State Treasury. Would impose a surcharge on retail sellers of dog and cat food, as defined, at a rate of 8 mills (\$0.008) imposed upon each dollar of dog and cat food sold in the state. Requires the Department of Food & Agriculture to undertake certain actions in administering and overseeing the California Spay-Neuter Fund, including, among others, offering competitive grants or set allocations to public animal shelters, private animal shelters with public contracts, or nonprofits for whom spay-neuter is a primary activity and targeting fund moneys towards the cities and counties with the state's highest shelter overpopulation or euthanasia rates, as provided. Requires the department to promulgate certain rules, including, among others, by establishing administrative, recordkeeping, and reporting requirements related to the receipt of fund moneys, as specified. Provides that the bill's provisions would remain in effect only until January 1, 2044, and as of that date would be repealed. For purposes of this section: "Dog and cat food" means any commercial feed prepared and distributed for consumption by dogs or cats, including, but not limited to, treats.

Introduction Date: 2023-01-13

Title

Rabies control data.

Description

AB 332, as amended, Lee. Rabies control data. Existing law governs the seizure, rescue, adopting out, and euthanasia of abandoned and surrendered animals by animal control officers, law enforcement officers, animal shelters, and rescue organizations. Existing law requires the governing body of each city, city and county, or county to maintain or provide for the maintenance of an animal shelter system and a rabies control program. This bill would require the State Department of Public Health to collect certain rabies control program data from each city, city and county, or county, as outlined. By increasing the data collected from each city, city and county, and county, this bill would create a state-mandated local program. The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement. This bill would provide that, if the Commission on State Mandates determines that the bill contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement for those costs shall be made pursuant to the statutory provisions noted above.

Primary Sponsors

Alex Lee

Bill Summary: Last edited by Jeff Plummer at Jan 31, 2023, 3:18 PM

Amends Division 105 (Communicable Disease Prevention & Control), Part 6 (Veterinary Public Health & Safety), Chapter 1 (Rabies Control), Section 121690 of CA Health & Safety Code to require the State Department of Public Health to collect certain rabies control program data from each city, city and county, or county. Provides that the State Department of Public Health shall collect rabies control program data from each city, city and county, or county annually, or quarterly if deemed necessary by the department. Provides that rabies control program data collected shall include all of the following: (A) Total number of dogs and cats licensed; (B) Citations issued for dog and cat license violations; (C) Number of public vaccination clinics held; (D) Total number of dogs and cats vaccinated or licensed at public clinics; (E) Number of domestic dogs and cats received by local animal control authorities, including, but not limited to, number surrendered by owner, by the public, or transferred from other shelters; (F) Number of domestic dogs and cats discharged by local animal control authorities, including, but not limited to, number reclaimed by owner, adopted, relinquished to a rescue organization, euthanized, died, or transferred to another shelter; (G) Animal bite data deemed necessary by the department; (H) Animal rabies quarantine data deemed necessary by the department; and (I) Any other data deemed necessary by the department.

Introduction Date: 2023-01-30

Title

Animal shelters: 72-hour public notice: euthanasia: study.

Description

AB 595, as amended, Essayli. Animal shelters: 72-hour public notice: euthanasia: study. Existing law declares that it is the policy of the state that no adoptable animal should be euthanized if it can be adopted into a suitable home. Existing law also declares that it is the policy of the state that no treatable animal should be euthanized. This bill, Bowie's Law, would require all animal shelters, as defined, to provide public notice on their internet website at least 72 hours before euthanizing any dog, cat, or rabbit, except as provided. The bill would require that notice to indicate that the animal is subject to euthanasia and to include information about the animal and its availability for adoption. The bill would authorize an animal shelter to provide this public notice for less than 72 hours if the animal shelter makes certain determinations. The bill would, for each instance where the animal shelter provides public notice for less than 72 hours, require the animal shelter to document the reason and to keep it on file and available for public inspection, as provided. By imposing new requirements on a public animal control agency or shelter, the bill would constitute a state-mandated local program. The bill would also require the Department of Food and Agriculture to conduct a study on the overcrowding of California's animal shelters, the ways in which the state might address animal shelter overcrowding, and the feasibility of a statewide database of dogs and cats that provides public notice and information at the statewide level, as specified. The bill would require the department to, on or before January 1, 2026, submit a report on its study findings to the Legislature, as provided. The bill would repeal these study and reporting requirements on January 1, 2027. The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement. This bill would provide that, if the Commission on State Mandates determines that the bill contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement for those costs shall be made pursuant to the statutory provisions noted above.

Primary Sponsors

Bill Essayli

Bill Summary: Last edited by Jeff Plummer at Feb 10, 2023, 3:43 PM

Amends Division 14.8 (Animals), Part 1 (Animal Facilities & Shelters) of CA Food & Agriculture Code by adding new Sections 32004 and 32005 to require: 1) Notification by animal shelters prior to euthanization of adoptable dogs and cats; and 2) A study on shelter overcrowding by the CA Department of Food and Agriculture. Would require all animal shelters to provide public notice on their internet website at least 72 hours before euthanizing an adoptable dog or cat, and include the date that an adoptable dog or cat is scheduled to be euthanized. Would require the Department of Food & Agriculture to conduct a study on the overcrowding of California's animal shelters, the ways in which the state might address animal shelter overcrowding, and the feasibility of a statewide database of adoptable dogs or cats, as specified. Would require the Department to, on or before January 1, 2026, submit a report on its study findings to the Legislature. For purposes of this section: "Adoptable dog or cat" means a dog or cat eight weeks of age or older that, at or subsequent to the time the animal is impounded or otherwise taken into possession, has manifested no sign of a behavioral or temperamental defect that could pose a health or safety risk, and has manifested no sign of disease, injury, or congenital or hereditary condition that adversely affects the health of the animal or that is likely to adversely affect the animal's health in the future. "Animal shelter" means a public animal control agency or shelter, society for the prevention of cruelty to animals shelter, humane society shelter, or rescue group.

Introduction Date: 2023-02-09

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status	Position
CA	AB 655	Chaptered By Secretary Of State Chapter 119 Statutes Of 2023 2023 07 27	Enacted	Monitor

Title

Fish and wildlife: aquatic invasive species: Caulerpa.

Description

AB 655, Petrie-Norris. Fish and wildlife: aquatic invasive species: Caulerpa. Existing law prohibits a person from selling, possessing, importing, transporting, transferring, releasing alive in the state, or giving away without consideration the salt water algae of enumerated Caulerpa species, except possession for bona fide scientific research, as provided. Existing law subjects any person who violates these provisions to a specified civil penalty and to specified infraction or misdemeanor penalties. This bill would instead prohibit a person from selling, possessing, importing, transporting, transferring, releasing alive in the state, or giving away without consideration all salt water algae of the genus Caulerpa, except that possession for bona fide scientific research. Because this bill expands the scope of conduct subject to criminal penalties, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program. The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement. This bill would provide that no reimbursement is required by this act for a specified reason.

Primary Sponsors

Cottie Petrie-Norris

Bill Summary: Last edited by Jeff Plummer at Jun 27, 2023, 1:06 PM

Amends Division 3 (Fish & Game Generally), Chapter 3.5 (Aquatic Invasive Species) of CA Fish & Game Code to expand the current prohibition on selling, possessing, importing, transporting, transferring, releasing alive in the state, or giving away without consideration nine (9) specific species of the genus Caulerpa to ALL Caulerpa species. Existing law prohibits a person from selling, possessing, importing, transporting, transferring, releasing alive in the state, or giving away without consideration the salt water algae of the following Caulerpa species: taxifolia, cupressoides, mexicana, sertulariodes, floridana, ashmeadii, racemosa, verticillata, and scapelliformis. This bill would expand the prohibitions related to specific species of Caulerpa to ALL Caulerpa species. Authorizes a person to possess salt water algae of the genus Caulerpa upon authorization by the department for bona fide scientific research.

Introduction Date: 2023-02-09

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status	Position
CA	AB 703	In Committee Set Second Hearing Hearing Canceled At The Request Of Author 2023 04 13	In Assembly	Monitor

Title

Residential property insurance: dog breeds.

Description

AB 703, as amended, Hart. Residential property insurance: dog breeds. Existing law generally regulates residential property insurance, including homeowners' insurance and renters' insurance. Existing law prohibits an insurer from canceling or refusing to renew a residential property insurance policy in specified circumstances, including on the basis that the applicant or insured person is, has been, or may be a victim of domestic violence. Existing law regulates animal control agencies and the ownership of dogs. Existing law provides for a process for an animal control agency to declare a dog "potentially dangerous" or "vicious," and requires an owner of a potentially dangerous dog to closely regulate the dog's behavior. This bill would prohibit an insurer from refusing to issue, canceling, refusing to renew, or increasing the premium for a policy of residential property insurance on the sole basis that the applicant or insured owns or harbors a dog that is a specific breed or mixture of breeds, except if the dog is known to be or has been declared potentially dangerous or vicious. The bill would authorize an insurer to ask an applicant or insured if a dog that they own or harbor is known to be or has been declared potentially dangerous or vicious.

Primary Sponsors

Gregg Hart

Bill Summary: Last edited by Jeff Plummer at Mar 6, 2023, 12:31 PM

Amends Division 1 (General Rules Governing Insurance), Part 1 (The Contract), Chapter 11 (Cancellation and Failure to Renew Certain Property Insurance) of California Insurance Code by adding a new section to prohibit an insurer from refusing to issue, canceling, refusing to renew, or increasing the premium for a policy of residential property insurance on the sole basis that the applicant or insured owns or harbors a dog that is a specific breed or mixture of breeds. Provides that an insurer shall not ask an applicant or insured or inquire about a specific breed or mixture of breeds of dog that the applicant or insured harbors or owns. Provides that this section does not prohibit an insurer from refusing to issue or renew or canceling a policy of residential property insurance or imposing a reasonable increased premium or rate based on sound underwriting and actuarial principles on the basis that a particular dog that is harbored or owned is known to be or has been declared potentially dangerous or vicious.

Introduction Date: 2023-02-13

State

CA

Bill Number

AB 774

Last Action

**From Committee Do Pass And Re Refer
To Com On Appr With Recommendation
To Consent Calendar Ayes 11 Noes 0
April 19 Re Referred To Com On Appr
2023 04 19**

Status

In Assembly

Position

Monitor

Title

Invasive pests: list.

Description

AB 774, as introduced, Mathis. Invasive pests: list. Existing law requires the Department of Food and Agriculture to develop and maintain a list of invasive pests, defined to mean animals, plants, insects, and plant and animal diseases or groups of those animals, plants, insects, and plant and animal diseases where introduction into California would or would likely cause economic or environmental harm, that have a reasonable likelihood of entering California for which a detection, exclusion, eradication, control, or management action by the state might be appropriate. This bill would require the department to post the list on its internet website.

Primary Sponsors

Devon Mathis

Bill Summary: Last edited by Jeff Plummer at Feb 14, 2023, 4:30 PM

Amends Division 4 (Plant Quarantine & Pest Control), Chapter 4.5 (Invasive Pest Planning) of CA Food & Agriculture Code by amending certain provisions of Section 5261 which requires the Department of Food & Agriculture to develop and maintain a list of invasive pests. Existing law requires the Department of Food & Agriculture to develop and maintain a list of invasive pests, defined to mean animals, plants, insects, and plant and animal diseases or groups of those animals, plants, insects, and plant and animal diseases where introduction into California would or would likely cause economic or environmental harm, that have a reasonable likelihood of entering California for which a detection, exclusion, eradication, control, or management action by the state might be appropriate. This bill would require the department to post the list on its internet website.

Introduction Date: 2023-02-13

Title

Accessibility to emergency information and services: emergency shelters: persons with pets.

Description

AB 781, Maienschein. Accessibility to emergency information and services: emergency shelters: persons with pets. Existing law, the California Emergency Services Act, provides that political subdivisions, as defined, have full power during a local emergency to provide mutual aid to any affected area in accordance with local ordinances, resolutions, emergency plans, or agreements. Existing law defines "emergency plan" for these purposes to mean official and approved documents that describe the principles and methods to be applied in carrying out emergency operations or rendering mutual aid during emergencies. Existing law requires that a county send a copy of its emergency plan to the Office of Emergency Services upon an update to the plan. Upon the next update to a city or county's emergency plan, this bill would require a county to update its emergency plan to designate emergency shelters able to accommodate persons with pets, and would require a city that has previously adopted an emergency plan designating emergency shelters to update its emergency plan to designate emergency shelters able to accommodate persons with pets. This bill would require, upon the next update to a city or county's emergency plan, whenever a city or county designates any number of emergency shelters that it also designate at least one emergency shelter that can accommodate persons with pets. This bill would also require, upon the next update to a city or county's emergency plan, whenever a city or county designates any number of cooling centers or warming centers, that it also, to the extent practicable, designate at least one cooling center or warming center, as applicable, that can accommodate persons with pets. The bill would require an emergency shelter designated as able to accommodate persons with pets to be in compliance with safety procedures regarding the sheltering of pets referenced or established in the component of the state and local emergency plan and applicable disaster assistance policies and procedures of the Federal Emergency Management Agency. This bill would also require a city or county to include whether the cooling or warming center can accommodate pets whenever a city or county provides public information regarding the availability of a cooling center or warming center. This bill would require a city or county to make available to the public by posting on its internet website information for pet emergency preparedness, including, but not limited to, among other things, information for creating an evacuation plan and emergency checklist for pets consistent with recommendations publicly published by the Department of Food and Agriculture and the Federal Emergency Management Agency. This bill would also make various f... (click bill link to see more).

Primary Sponsors

Brian Maienschein

Bill Summary: Last edited by Jeff Plummer at Feb 14, 2023, 4:38 PM

Amends Title 2 (Government of the State of California), Chapter 7 (California Emergency Services Act), Article 6.5 (Accessibility to Emergency Information and Services) of California Government Code by adding a new Section 8593.10 to require a county, on or before July 1, 2024, to update its emergency plan to designate emergency shelters able to accommodate persons with pets. Would require: (1) An emergency shelter designated as able to accommodate persons with pets to be in compliance with safety procedures regarding the sheltering of pets established in the component of the state and local emergency plan and applicable disaster assistance policies and procedures of the Federal Emergency Management Agency; (2) That whenever a city or county designates an emergency shelter, cooling center, or warming center that it also designate an emergency shelter, cooling center, or warming center, as applicable, that can accommodate persons with pets; and (3) A city or county to make available to the public by posting on its internet website information for pet emergency preparedness, including, but not limited to, among other things, information for creating an evacuation plan and emergency checklist for pets consistent with recommendations publicly published by the Office of Emergency Services and the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

Introduction Date: 2023-02-13

Title

Crime: animal abuse.

Description

AB 829, Waldron. Crime: animal abuse. Existing law makes it a crime to maliciously and intentionally maim, mutilate, torture, wound, or kill a living animal. If a defendant is granted probation for a conviction of this offense, existing law requires the court to order the defendant to complete counseling designed to evaluate and treat behavior or conduct disorders. This bill would delete the requirement that a defendant granted probation complete counseling and would, instead, require the court to order a defendant convicted of specified offenses, including the above-described offense, against animals and granted probation to successfully complete counseling designed to evaluate and treat behavior or conduct disorders. The bill would require the court to consider whether to order the defendant to undergo a mental health evaluation by an evaluator chosen by the court. Upon evaluation, if the evaluating mental health professional deems a higher level of treatment is necessary, the bill would require the defendant to complete such treatment as directed by the court. The bill would generally require the defendant to pay for counseling, the mental health evaluation, and subsequent treatment but would exempt a person who meets specified criteria from paying any costs and would otherwise authorize the court to establish a sliding fee schedule based on the defendant's ability to pay. The bill would additionally make records related to this evaluation and treatment confidential, as specified. By requiring local government to offer counseling as part of a defendants' probation for a conviction of specified offenses, this bill would create a state-mandated local program. Existing constitutional provisions require that a statute that limits the right of access to the meetings of public bodies or the writings of public officials and agencies be adopted with findings demonstrating the interest protected by the limitation and the need for protecting that interest. This bill would make legislative findings to that effect. The California Constitution provides for the Right to Truth-In-Evidence, which requires a 2/3 vote of the Legislature to exclude any relevant evidence from any criminal proceeding, as specified. By excluding relevant evidence from a criminal proceeding, this bill would require a 2/3 vote of the Legislature. The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement. This bill would provide that, if the Commission on State Mandates determines that the bill contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement for those costs shall be made pursuant to the statutory provisions... (click bill link to see more).

Primary Sponsors

Marie Waldron

Bill Summary: Last edited by Jeff Plummer at Mar 22, 2023, 2:32 PM

The "Animal Cruelty and Violence Intervention Act of 2023" amends Part 1 (Of Crimes and Punishments), Title 14 (Malicious Mischief) of California Penal Code by adding a new Section 600.8 to require a defendant convicted of maliciously and intentionally maiming, mutilating, torturing, wounding, or killnig a living animal to complete certain counseling and mental health evaluations. Requires the court to order a defendant convicted of specified offenses, including the above-described offense, against animals and granted probation to successfully complete counseling designed to evaluate and treat behavior or conduct disorders. Requires the court, if necessary, to consider whether to order the defendant to undergo a mental health evaluation by an evaluator chosen by the court. Upon evaluation, if the evaluating mental health professional deems a higher level of treatment is necessary, the bill would require the defendant to complete such treatment as directed by the court. Requires the defendant to pay for counseling, the mental health evaluation, and subsequent treatment but would authorize the court to establish a sliding fee schedule based on the defendant's ability to pay. Makes records related to this evaluation and treatment confidential.

Introduction Date: 2023-02-13

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status	Position
CA	AB 1215	Enrolled And Presented To The Governor At 3 30 P M 2023 09 21	Passed Senate	Monitor

Title

Pets Assistance With Support Grant Program: homeless shelters: domestic violence shelters: pets.

Description

AB 1215, Wendy Carrillo. Pets Assistance With Support Grant Program: homeless shelters: domestic violence shelters: pets. Existing law establishes the Department of Housing and Community Development in the Business, Consumer Services, and Housing Agency and makes the department responsible for administering various housing programs throughout the state, including, among others, the Multifamily Housing Program, the Housing for a Healthy California Program, and the California Emergency Solutions Grants Program. This bill would require the department, upon appropriation by the Legislature, to develop and administer the Pets Assistance With Support Grant Program (PAWS), to award grants to qualified homeless shelters and qualified domestic violence shelters, as defined. The bill would require grant recipients to meet certain availability and service requirements as they relate to the pets of people experiencing homelessness and people escaping domestic violence. The bill would authorize the department to use up to 7% of the funds appropriated in the annual Budget Act for those purposes for its costs in administering the program.

Primary Sponsors

Wendy Carrillo

Bill Summary: Last edited by Jeff Plummer at Feb 17, 2023, 5:17 PM
Amends Division 31 (Housing & Home Finance), Part 2 (Dept. of Housing & Community Development) of California Health & Safety Code by adding a new Chapter 3.6 (Pets Assistance With Support Grant Program) to require the Department to develop and administer the Pets Assistance With Support Grant Program (PAWS), to award grants to qualified homeless shelters and qualified domestic violence shelters. Would require grant recipients to meet certain availability and service requirements as they relate to the pets of people experiencing homelessness and people escaping domestic violence. Provides that the program would only become operative upon appropriation by the Legislature. Provides that a qualified homeless shelter or qualified domestic violence shelter shall meet all of the following conditions: (1) Have rules of conduct and responsibility regarding pets and their owners. (2) Provide beds, crates, or kenneling either near bunks or onsite in a separate area. (3) Provide food for both participants and their pets. (4) Provide leashes, collars, harnesses, and vests for pets. (5) Provide essential hygiene products including, but not limited to, flea and tick prevention medication for pets. (6) Offer the services of a veterinarian, including, but not limited to, spaying and neutering services, emergency veterinary services, prescription and over the counter medication, and behavioral support. For purposes of this section: "Common household pet" means a domesticated animal, including, but not limited to, a dog or cat, that is commonly kept in the home for pleasure rather than for commercial purposes.

Introduction Date: 2023-02-16

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status	Position
CA	AB 1518	In Committee Held Under Submission 2023 05 18	In Assembly	Monitor

Title

Service dogs.

Description

AB 1518, as amended, Friedman. Service dogs. Existing law contains various provisions relating to guide dog instruction and requires a guide dog school to annually submit a list of all trainers or guide dog instructors employed or contracted by the school to the Department of Consumer Affairs. Existing law prohibits the department from charging a fee for the collection of this data. This bill would require the department, on or before September 10, 2025, to inform places of business, through an educational campaign throughout the state, of the problems faced by qualified service dog users, as provided. The bill would define the term "service dog" for these purposes. The bill would authorize the department to solicit donations from private sources, including service dog schools, to support this campaign.

Primary Sponsors

Laura Friedman

Bill Summary: Last edited by Jeff Plummer at Feb 21, 2023, 1:56 PM
An Act stating the intent of the Legislature to enact legislation that would require the Labor and Workforce Development Agency to partner with accredited service dog organizations to provide technical education regarding federal disability law and service dog requirements.

Introduction Date: 2023-02-17

Title

Crimes: stalking.

Description

SB 89, as amended, Ochoa Bogh. Crimes: stalking. Existing law makes a person who willfully, maliciously, and repeatedly follows or willfully and maliciously harasses another person and who makes a credible threat with the intent to place that person in reasonable fear for the person's safety, or the safety of the person's immediate family, guilty of the crime of stalking, punishable as a misdemeanor or a felony. This bill would also make a person guilty of stalking if the person willfully, maliciously, and repeatedly follows or willfully and maliciously harasses another person and who makes a credible threat with the intent to place that person in reasonable fear for the safety of that person's pet, service animal, emotional support animal, or horse. By changing the definition of a crime, this bill would impose a state-mandated local program. The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement. This bill would provide that no reimbursement is required by this act for a specified reason.

Primary Sponsors

Rosilicie Ochoa Bogh

Bill Summary: Last edited by Jeff Plummer at Jan 18, 2023, 2:44 PM

Amends Title 15 (Miscellaneous Crimes), Chapter 2 (Of Other & Miscellaneous Offenses), Section 646.9 of CA Penal Code to alter the stalking offense to protect pets, service animals and emotional support animals. Provides that a person is guilty of stalking if the person has the intent to harm or the intent to place under surveillance for the purpose of harming another person, and engages in conduct that either places that person in reasonable fear of death or serious bodily injury to themselves, a close family member, or a pet, service animal, emotional support animal, or horse that belongs to that person, or causes, attempts to cause, or would be reasonably expected to cause substantial emotional distress to one of the above persons.

Introduction Date: 2023-01-17

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