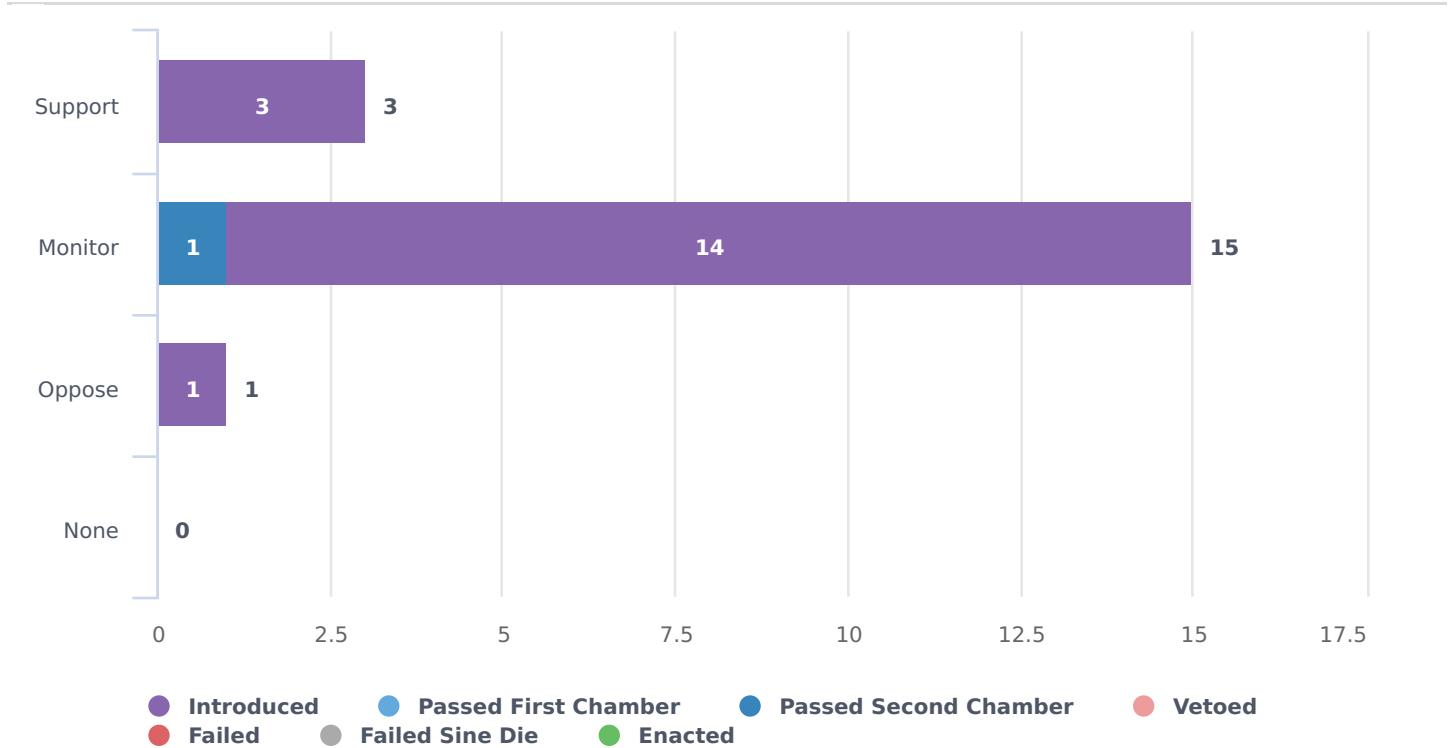


# Missouri - 2024 Legislative Overview

Last Updated: May 20, 2024

Bills by Last Status and Position



Bill State: MO (19)

**Title**  
INDUCING THE DEATH OF A DOG OR A CAT

**Description**  
Establishes provisions governing methods of inducing the death of a dog or a cat

**Primary Sponsors**  
Adam Schwadron

**Bill Summary:** Last edited by Jeff Plummer at Dec 4, 2023, 2:32 PM  
Amends Title XVII (Agriculture & Animals), Chapter 273 (Cats-Dogs) of the Revised Statutes of Missouri by adding a new Section 273.361 to regulate the method of inducing the death of a dog or a cat in an animal control agency, animal shelter, or pound. Provides that the sole the method of inducing the death of a dog or a cat in an animal control agency, animal shelter, or pound shall be the injection of sodium pentobarbital or a derivative thereof. Provides that 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 under Section 273.347 (crime of canine cruelty, penalty). Provides that inducing the death of a dog or a cat shall be performed by a licensed veterinarian or physician who is properly trained in the proper and humane use of methods of inducing the death of a dog or a cat.

**Introduction Date:** 2024-01-03

**Title**  
ABUSE AND NEGLECT REPORTING

**Description**  
Modifies provisions relating to abuse and neglect reporting, including a requirement to report companion animal abuse

**Primary Sponsors**  
Justin Sparks

**Bill Summary:** Last edited by Jeff Plummer at Dec 4, 2023, 2:39 PM  
Amends Title XII (Public Health & Welfare), Chapters 192 (Dept. of Health & Senior Services) and 210 (Child Protection and Reformation) of the Revised Statutes of Missouri by adding new sections to require veterinarians, animal control officers, and animal humane investigators to be mandated reporters in cases of abuse and neglect of children, the elderly, and other vulnerable persons. Provides that any animal control officers or animal humane investigators shall be required to receive one hour of training within the first 60 days of employment to recognize the signs of abuse or neglect in children, the elderly, and vulnerable persons. Creates a mandated reporting requirement for certain mental health, educational, protective services, and law enforcement personnel to report cases of companion animal abuse or neglect to a hotline established by the Missouri Animal Control Association. Provides that a mandated reporter who fails to make a report shall be subject to discipline by his or her professional licensing board, as well as a fine. For purposes of this section: "Companion animal" is defined in the act as a living creature maintained by a household for companionship and not commercial purposes.

**Introduction Date:** 2024-01-03

**Title**  
LAW ENFORCEMENT ANIMALS

**Description**  
Modifies provisions relating to law enforcement animals

**Primary Sponsors**  
Bill Falkner

**Bill Summary:** Last edited by Jeff Plummer at Dec 5, 2023, 1:28 PM  
"Max's Law" amends Title XXXVIII (Crimes & Punishment: Peace Officers and Public Defenders), Chapter 575 (Offenses Against Administration of Justice), Section 353 (Assault on a Police Animals) of MO Revised Statutes to modify offenses relating to law enforcement animals. Strikes all references to "police animal" in the section and replaces with "law enforcement animal". Provides that the offense of a law enforcement animal is: 1) A Class A misdemeanor if the law enforcement animal is not injured to the point of requiring veterinary care or treatment; 2) A Class E felony if the law enforcement animal is seriously injured to the point of requiring veterinary care or treatment; and 3) A Class D felony if the assault results in the death of such animal.

**Introduction Date:** 2024-01-03

**Title**  
CONFISCATION OF ANIMALS

**Description**  
Modifies provisions relating to the confiscation of animals

**Primary Sponsors**  
Travis Smith

**Bill Summary:** Last edited by Jeff Plummer at Dec 7, 2023, 3:28 PM  
Amends Title XXXVIII (Crimes & Punishment; Peace Officers & Public Defenders), Chapter 578 (Miscellaneous Offenses) of Missouri Revised Statutes by adding two new sections relating to the confiscation of certain animals along with penalty provisions. Provides that a person acting under the authority of a warrant is required to appear at a disposition hearing before the court through which the warrant was issued within 15 days of the confiscation, rather than within 30 days of the filing of the request, for the purpose of granting immediate disposition of the animals. Provides that all confiscated animals shall receive proper care and that facilities shall be liable to the animal owner for damages for any negligent acts or abuse. Adds provision that all animals confiscated under this section shall receive proper care as determined by state law and regulations for each specific animal and facility or organization where the animal is placed after such confiscation. Provides that any such facility or organization shall be liable to the animal owner for damages for any negligent acts or abuse of such animal that occurs while the animal is in the care, custody, and control of the facility or organization. Provides that any person or entity that intentionally euthanizes, other than as permissible under this section, or intentionally sterilizes an animal prior to a disposition hearing is guilty of a class B misdemeanor and shall be liable to the owner of the animal for damages including, but not limited to, the actual value of the animal. Each violation against each individual animal is a separate offense. Any second or subsequent violation is a class A misdemeanor and any entity licensed under state law shall be subject to licensure sanction by its governing body.

**Introduction Date:** 2024-01-03

**Title**  
ANIMALS

**Description**  
Modifies provisions relating to animals

**Primary Sponsors**  
Kent Haden

**Bill Summary:** Last edited by Jeff Plummer at Jan 3, 2024, 2:58 PM  
Amends Title VI (County, Township & Political Subdivision Government), Chapter 67 (Political Subdivisions; Miscellaneous Powers) and Title XXXIII (Evidence & Legal Advertisements), Chapter 491 (Witnesses) of Missouri Statutes by: (1) Adding a new section to prohibit villages, towns, and cities from regulating dogs in a breed-specific manner; and (2) Allowing for certified therapeutic dogs for child witnesses in certain judicial proceedings. Chapter 67 amendments: Adds provision that nothing in this chapter shall be construed to limit in any manner the authority of any village; town; city, including home rule city; or county to prohibit dogs from running at large or to further control or regulate dogs within its boundaries, provided that no such ordinance, order, policy, or regulation is specific to breed. Provides that the General Assembly hereby occupies and preempts the entire field of legislation regarding in any way the control or regulation of specific breeds of dogs to the complete exclusion of any order, ordinance, policy, or regulation by any village; town; city, including any home rule city; or county in this state. Any existing or future order, ordinance, policy, or regulation in this field shall be null and void. Provides that any village; town; city, including any home rule city; or county with an existing breed-specific order, ordinance, policy, or regulation in effect on or before August 28, 2024, shall have until February 28, 2025, to bring such order, ordinance, policy, or regulation into compliance with this section. After February 28, 2025, all noncompliant breed specific orders, ordinances, policies, and regulations shall be unenforceable. Chapter 491 amendments: Provides that a child or vulnerable person testifying in a judicial proceeding shall be entitled to have in close proximity a certified therapeutic dog accompanied by the certified therapeutic dog's handler in lieu of a support person. For purposes of this section: "Certified therapeutic dog" means a dog that has received the requisite training or certification from an organization that places dogs in hospitals, nursing homes, and other facilities where the emotional benefits of therapy through the use of dogs is recognized.

**Introduction Date:** 2024-01-03

**Title**  
POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS

**Description**  
Relating to political subdivisions

**Primary Sponsors**  
Richard West

**Bill Summary:** Last edited by Jeff Plummer at Apr 10, 2024, 1:18 PM  
The "Protecting Missouri's Small Businesses Act" amends and repeals multiple chapters of the Revised Statutes of Missouri relating to local political subdivisions. 4/8/24 Substitute: Amends Title XVII (Agriculture & Animals), Chapter 273 (Dog-Cats/Animal Care & Facilities Licensing-Regulation) of Missouri Revised Statutes by adding a new Section 273.358 to provide for state preemption over pet shop regulations. Provides that a political subdivision shall not adopt or enforce an ordinance or other regulation that prohibits or effectively prohibits the operation of a pet shop licensed under this chapter from operating within its state license. Provides that nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit the enforcement of any applicable building codes, general zoning requirements, or relevant inspections as otherwise required by ordinance or law.

**Introduction Date:** 2024-01-03

**Title**  
PET SHOP OPERATIONS

**Description**  
Modifies provisions relating to pet shop operations

**Primary Sponsors**  
Ben Baker

**Bill Summary:** Last edited by Jeff Plummer at Jan 4, 2024, 6:27 PM

The "Animal Care Facilities Act" amends Title XVII (Agriculture & Animals), Chapter 273 (Dogs-Cats) of the Revised Statutes of Missouri by adding a new sections to: (1) Provide animal dealer and pet shop animal sourcing restrictions and breeder disclosure requirements; and (2) prohibit adoption of local ordinances restricting the operation of licensed pet shops. Provides that a dealer or pet shop shall not purchase from any entity who is not licensed in accordance with sections 273.325 to 273.357, or has multiple or repeat critical violations or direct violations of state or federal law within the last three (3) years. Provides that a pet shop shall disclose to the purchaser of a dog the breeder's and dealer's name and address. Provides that a political subdivision shall not adopt or enforce an ordinance or other regulation that prohibits or effectively prohibits the operation of a pet shop licensed under sections 273.325 to 273.357 from operating within their state license. Provides that nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit the enforcement of any applicable building codes, general zoning requirements, or relevant inspections as otherwise required by ordinance or law. For purposes of this section: "Animal" means any dog or cat, which is being used, or is intended for use, for research, teaching, testing, breeding, or exhibition purposes, or as a pet. "Critical violation" means noncompliance items issued by the Missouri Department of Agriculture or the USDA that had a serious or severe adverse effect on the health and well-being of the animal. "Direct violation" means a critical noncompliance item that is currently, at the time of inspection by the Missouri Department of Agriculture or the USDA, had a serious or severe adverse effect on the health and well-being of the animal. "Dealer" means any person who is engaged in the business of buying for resale, selling or exchanging animals, as a principal or agent, or who holds himself out to be so engaged or is otherwise classified as a dealer by the USDA as defined by regulations of the USDA. "Pet shop" means any facility where animals are bought, sold, exchanged, or offered for retail sale to the general public.

**Introduction Date:** 2024-01-04

**Title**  
OFFENSE OF UNLAWFUL DOG TETHERING OR CHAINING

**Description**  
Establishes the offense of unlawful dog tethering or chaining

**Primary Sponsors**  
Ingrid Burnett

**Bill Summary:** Last edited by Jeff Plummer at Jan 18, 2024, 2:10 PM  
Amends Title XXXVIII (Crimes & Punishment), Chapter 578 (Miscellaneous Offenses) of Revised Statutes of Missouri by adding a new Section 578.019 to provide for the offense of unlawful dog tethering or chaining, with a penalty provision. Provides that a person commits the offense of unlawful dog tethering or chaining if the person: 1) Keeps the dog tethered or chained while unsupervised by a competent individual physically present on the property with the dog; 2) Keeps a dog tethered, chained, or otherwise restricted by a leash, rope, chain, or other similar mechanism with which the dog does not have shelter from extreme natural elements, adequate food, or access to unfrozen potable water; 3) Keeps a dog tethered or chained in an area that is unsafe or insanitary or not free from obstruction that may cause entanglement or injury; 4) Keeps the dog tethered or chained for a maximum of thirty minutes at a time, not to exceed a total of three hours in a twenty-four-hour period; or 5) Inappropriately tethers or chains the dog with a tether or chain that is not proportionate to the size of the dog, that is less than fifteen feet in length, that does not have a swivel on both ends of the tether or chain, and that is not attached to the dog by a properly fitting harness or collar. Provides that a person commits the offense of unlawful dog tethering or chaining under any circumstance if the person tethers or chains an unaltered dog or a dog under six months of age. Provides that the offense of unlawful dog tethering or chaining is a class B misdemeanor.

**Introduction Date:** 2024-01-17

**Title**  
ANIMAL MICRO SHELTERS

**Description**  
Establishes micro shelters for animals and outlines minimum requirements for those shelters to operate

**Primary Sponsors**  
Emily Weber

**Bill Summary:** Last edited by Jeff Plummer at Jan 25, 2024, 3:23 PM  
Amends Title XVII (Agriculture & Animals), Chapter 273 (Dogs-Cats), Sections 273.325 (Definitions) and 273.342 (Exemption from Licensing Requirements) of the Revised Statutes of Missouri to define and exempt "micro shelters" from the state's licensure and inspection requirements. Provides that a micro shelter shall be exempt from the licensure and inspection requirements of sections 273.325 to 273.357 ("Animal Care Facilities Act"). Provides that the Director of the Department of Agriculture shall develop a form for registration of animal shelters that meet the definition of a micro shelter, and any such micro shelter shall register annually with the Director for the purpose of establishing that such entity is a micro shelter, at no cost to the micro shelter. New definitions: "Micro shelter" means an animal shelter that houses no more than ten (10) animals at any one time, except infant puppies or kittens born to an animal housed at the shelter shall not be included in the count of animals for determining if an operation meets the standards for a micro shelter. "Infant puppy or kitten" means any dog or cat less than twelve weeks of age.

**Introduction Date:** 2024-01-24

State  
**MO**

Bill Number  
**HB 2647**

Last Action  
**Referred General Laws H 2024 05 17**

Status  
**In House**

**Title**  
LOANS FOR COMPANION ANIMALS

**Description**  
Establishes standards in regards to retail charge agreements and installation contracts for companion animals

**Primary Sponsors**  
Ashley Aune

**Bill Summary:** Last edited by Jeff Plummer at Feb 7, 2024, 4:46 PM  
Amends Title XVII (Agriculture & Animals), Chapter 267 (State Veterinarian-Diseased Animals) of the Revised Statutes of Missouri by adding a new Section 267.155 to establish standards in regards to retail charge agreements and installation contracts for companion animals. Provides that no person licensed under this chapter shall finance, enter into a retail installment contract, or make a loan for the purchase of a companion animal. Provides that no sales finance agency shall purchase a retail installment contract or a retail charge agreement for the sale of a canine or feline or the outstanding balance under a retail installment contract or a retail charge agreement for the sale of a companion animal. Provides that no sales finance agency shall make a loan secured by a retail installment contract or a retail charge agreement for the sale of a canine or feline or the outstanding balance under a retail installment contract or a retail charge agreement for the sale of a companion animal. For purposes of this section: "Companion animal" means a pet or other domesticated animal. "Retail charge agreement" means an agreement entered into in this state between a retail seller and a retail buyer prescribing the terms of retail time transactions to be made from time to time pursuant to such agreement, and which provides for a time charge to be computed on the buyer's total unpaid balance from time to time "Retail installment contract" means an agreement evidencing a retail installment transaction entered into in this state pursuant to which the title to or a lien which is the subject matter of the retail installment transaction is retained or taken by the seller from the buyer as security for the buyer's obligation. The term includes a chattel mortgage or a conditional sales contract. "Sales finance agency" means an entity, irrespective of its state of domicile or place of business, engaged in this state, in whole or in part, in the business of purchasing, or making loans secured by, retail installment contracts, retail charge agreements, or the outstanding balances under such contracts or agreements entered into in this state.

**Introduction Date:** 2024-02-06

State  
**MO**

Bill Number  
**HB 2672**

Last Action  
**Voted Do Pass H 2024 03 12**

Status  
**In House**

**Title**  
CEMETERIES

**Description**  
Modifies provisions relating to cemeteries

**Primary Sponsors**  
Richard West

**Bill Summary:** Last edited by Jeff Plummer at Feb 13, 2024, 2:49 PM  
Amends Title XXII (Public Health & Welfare), Chapter 214 (Cemeteries), Section 270 (Definitions) of the MO Revised Statutes by adding a definition for "human and pet cemetery". Adds provision that a human and pet cemetery shall be treated as a cemetery under this section for purposes of licensing and endowed care. For purposes of this section: "Human and pet cemetery" means a tract of real estate separate from a cemetery in which both human remains and the remains of creatures other than human may be interred and memorialized at the discretion of the lot holder and subject to the rules of the human and pet cemetery. Burial space in a human and pet cemetery shall have the same meaning as defined in this section but be applicable to pets as well as human dead.

**Introduction Date:** 2024-02-12

**Title**  
ANIMAL CARE FACILITIES

**Description**  
Establishes standards relating to the handling of animals suffering from parvovirus

**Primary Sponsors**  
Ashley Aune

**Bill Summary:** Last edited by Jeff Plummer at Feb 14, 2024, 3:19 PM

Amends Title XVII (Agriculture & Animals), Chapter 273 (Animal Care and Facilities Licensing/Regulation) of the Revised Statutes of Missouri by adding new sections to establish standards relating to the handling of animals suffering from parvovirus. New Section 273.332 provides that: (1) If an animal or group of animals under the possession or control of a person or entity licensed under Section 273.327 (License annually required to operate animal boarding facilities, pet shops, pounds, dealers and commercial breeders — fees, exemption from fees for certain licensees) is suffering from parvovirus or exposure to parvovirus, such person or entity in possession or control shall notify the state veterinarian by the close of the business day following the diagnosis, and a quarantine of the premises may be issued until the animals meet the provisions for release as established by the state veterinarian; (2) Animals that have or are suspected of having parvovirus shall be isolated from healthy animals in the facility, as directed by the attending veterinarian. When an entire group or room of animals is known to have been exposed or believed to have been exposed to parvovirus, the group may be kept intact during the process of diagnosis, treatment, and control; and (3) When, in the judgment of the state veterinarian or an animal welfare official, any person or entity licensed under Section 273.327 (License annually required to operate animal boarding facilities, pet shops, pounds, dealers and commercial breeders — fees, exemption from fees for certain licensees) has been in violation of this section so as to pose a substantial ongoing risk to the health and welfare of animals in their custody or so as to pose a substantial ongoing risk that consumers will purchase diseased animals from such person or entity, the director may revoke the license held by such person or entity. New Section 273.334 provides that: Records of the dates of acquisition and disposition and identifying information for the source of animals under the possession or control of all persons or entities licensed under Section 273.327 (License annually required to operate animal boarding facilities, pet shops, pounds, dealers and commercial breeders — fees, exemption from fees for certain licensees) shall be maintained on all animals bought, raised, or otherwise obtained, held, kept, maintained, transported, sold, given, released, donated, or otherwise disposed of, to include death or euthanasia with the cause of death or reason for euthanasia listed, which shall be reported annually to the state veterinarian.

**Introduction Date:** 2024-02-13



**Title**  
TAX CREDITS

**Description**  
Authorizes a tax credit to offset fees from the adoption of rescue animals

**Primary Sponsors**  
LaDonna Appelbaum

**Bill Summary:** Last edited by Jeff Plummer at Feb 16, 2024, 2:50 PM  
Amends Title X (Taxation & Revenue), Chapter 135 (Tax Relief) of the Revised Statutes of Missouri by adding a new Section 135.790 authorizing a tax credit to offset fees from the adoption of rescue animals. Provides that for all tax years beginning on or after January 1, 2024, a taxpayer shall be allowed to claim tax credits against the taxpayer's state tax liability for qualified pet adoptions made by the taxpayer during the tax year. Provides that the amount of any tax credit claimed for a qualified pet adoption shall be equal to the qualified amount for such qualified pet adoption. Provides that a taxpayer shall not be allowed to claim more than two tax credits under this section per tax year, regardless of whether the taxpayer makes more than two qualified pet adoptions during the tax year. Provides that the cumulative amount of tax credits allowed to all taxpayers under this section shall not exceed \$500,000 dollars. For purposes of this section: "Qualified pet adoption" means any adoption by a taxpayer of an animal from an animal shelter.

**Introduction Date:** 2024-02-15

**Title**  
DOMESTIC PET CARE

**Description**  
Establishes the "Healthy Pets Act"

**Primary Sponsors**  
Doug Clemens

**Bill Summary:** Last edited by Jeff Plummer at Feb 20, 2024, 5:55 PM

Amends Title XVII (Agriculture & Animals), Chapter 273 (Animal Care and Facilities Licensing/Regulation) of the Revised Statutes of Missouri by adding a new Section 273.355 ("Healthy Pets Act") to provide for: (1) Commercial dog breeder standards of care; (2) Pet shop dog sourcing restrictions and signage requirements; and (3) Pet shop consumer warranty. Provides that commercial breeders shall maintain healthy breeding practices on all animals used for breeding to include: (1) Genetic testing; (2) USDA-recommended vaccinations; (3) X-ray screening (for presence or risk of hip dysplasia); (4) Annual veterinarian examination of breeding males and intact females (with photographs); and (5) Photographs of housing enclosures. Provides that dealers and pet shops shall not purchase, exchange, or otherwise obtain animals from any commercial breeder that has been: (1) Found to be in violation of any state or federal laws or regulations promulgated by the Department of Agriculture or the USDA relating to the care or keeping of animals within the last 3 years; or (2) Found guilty of animal abuse or neglect under section 578.009 or 578.012. Provides that dealers and pet shops shall not buy, transfer, or exchange animals to a third party or final consumer without providing certain genetic testing results and vaccination records. Provides that pet shops shall display prominently on the enclosure of each animal offered for sale the: (1) Total purchase price of the animal, including but not limited to any taxes, fees, and licensing costs; and (2) Name, city, state, and license number of the commercial breeder from which the animal was purchased or otherwise obtained. Provides that each animal purchased from a dealer or pet shop shall be warrantied to be free from genetic or major medical conditions not caused by physical injury while in the care and control of the consumer for one year from the date of purchase. Provides that if any genetic or major medical condition manifests prior to the expiration of the warranty period, the dealer or pet shop shall be liable for: (1) Reasonable medical costs to treat such genetic or major medical condition; (2) Euthanasia, if a licensed veterinarian determines it is necessary for the humane treatment of the animal; or (3) Return and refund to the consumer at the consumer's discretion. For purposes of this section: "Animal" means any dog or cat, which is being used, or is intended for use, for research, teaching, testing, breeding, or exhibition purposes, or as a pet. "Commercial breeder" means a person, other than a hobby or show breeder, engaged in the business of breeding animals for sale or for exchange in return for a consideration, and who harbors more than three intact females for the primary purpose of breeding animals for sale.

**Introduction Date:** 2024-02-19

**Title**  
ANIMAL WELFARE

**Description**  
Modifies standards in regards to animal care

**Primary Sponsors**  
Doug Mann

**Bill Summary:** Last edited by Jeff Plummer at Feb 27, 2024, 6:11 PM

The "Puppy Protection Act" amends Title XVII (Agriculture & Animals), Chapter 273 (Dogs-Cats), Sections 273.331 (Inspection required for license - state veterinarian's duties and authority), 273.333 (Investigations conducted, when - violations, administrative procedure) and 273.345 (Canine Cruelty Prevention Act - citation of law - purpose - required care) of the Revised Statutes of Missouri to further provide animal welfare standards for licensed animal facilities. Section 273.331 (Inspection required for license - state veterinarian's duties and authority) amendments: Adds provision that, if any violations are found, the state veterinarian, or his or her designated representative, shall conduct such follow-up inspections as may be necessary until all such violations are resolved. Provides that the state veterinarian or animal welfare official shall provide a copy of all records documenting any violation identified during the investigation to the state, local, and municipal animal control or law enforcement agency with jurisdiction within twenty-four hours of such investigation. Section 273.333 (Investigations conducted, when - violations, administrative procedure) amendments: Provides that the state veterinarian or animal welfare official shall provide a copy of all records documenting any violation identified during the investigation to the state, local, and municipal animal control or law enforcement agency with jurisdiction within twenty-four hours of such investigation. Provides that each violation and each day during which a violation continues shall constitute a separate offense. Section 273.345 (Canine Cruelty Prevention Act - citation of law - purpose - required care) amendments: Adds "meaningful socialization with humans and compatible dogs" to breeder standards of care requirements. Provides that any person subject to the requirements of this subsection shall make reasonable efforts to find humane placement for retired breeding dogs such as with an adoptive family, a rescue organization, or another appropriate owner for that dog. A humane placement shall not include selling at auction or otherwise placing a retired breeding dog with another breeder for breeding purposes. Amends definition of "adequate rest between breeding cycles" to mean, at a minimum prohibiting the breeding of a female dog: (1) To produce no more than two litters in any eighteen-month period; or (2) To produce no more than six litters in that dog's lifetime; and (3) Prior to reaching the age of eighteen months or after reaching the age of nine years for female dogs of small breeds, to have a maximum weight range at maturity that is below forty pounds; or (4) Prior to reaching the age of two years or after reaching the age of seven years for female dogs of large breeds, to have an expected weight range at maturity that is forty or more pounds. Provides for veterinary examination program, primary enclosure requirements, and temperature minimum/maximum standards. Adds a new Section 273.355 ("Healthy Pets Act") which is the language from HB 2723 which provides for: (1) Commercial dog breeder standards of care; (2) Pet shop dog sourcing restrictions and signage requirements; and (3) Pet shop consumer warranty.

**Introduction Date:** 2024-02-26

**Title**  
Modifies provisions relating to public safety

**Primary Sponsors**  
Tony Luetkemeyer

**Bill Summary:** Last edited by Jeff Plummer at Dec 7, 2023, 3:36 PM  
"Max's Law" amends Title XXXVIII (Crimes & Punishment: Peace Officers and Public Defenders), Chapter 575 (Offenses Against Administration of Justice), Section 353 (Assault on a Police Animals) of MO Revised Statutes to modify offenses relating to law enforcement animals. Strikes all references to "police animal" in the section and replaces with "law enforcement animal". Provides that the offense of a law enforcement animal is: 1) A Class A misdemeanor if the law enforcement animal is not injured to the point of requiring veterinary care or treatment; 2) A Class E felony if the law enforcement animal is seriously injured to the point of requiring veterinary care or treatment; and 3) A Class D felony if the assault results in the death of such animal.

**Introduction Date:** 2024-01-03

**Title**  
Creates provisions related to pet shops and animal dealers

**Primary Sponsors**  
Justin Brown

**Bill Summary:** Last edited by Jeff Plummer at Dec 7, 2023, 4:06 PM  
The "Animal Care Facilities Act" amends Title XVII (Agriculture & Animals), Chapter 273 (Dogs-Cats) of the Revised Statutes of Missouri by adding a new sections to: (1) Provide animal dealer and pet shop animal sourcing restrictions and breeder disclosure requirements; and (2) prohibit adoption of local ordinances restricting the operation of licensed pet shops. Provides that a dealer or pet shop shall not purchase from any entity who is not licensed in accordance with sections 273.325 to 273.357, or has multiple or repeat critical violations or direct violations of state or federal law within the last three (3) years. Provides that a pet shop shall disclose to the purchaser of a dog the breeder's and dealer's name and address. Provides that a political subdivision shall not adopt or enforce an ordinance or other regulation that prohibits or effectively prohibits the operation of a pet shop licensed under sections 273.325 to 273.357 from operating within their state license. Provides that nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit the enforcement of any applicable building codes, general zoning requirements, or relevant inspections as otherwise required by ordinance or law. For purposes of this section: "Animal" means any dog or cat, which is being used, or is intended for use, for research, teaching, testing, breeding, or exhibition purposes, or as a pet. "Critical violation" means noncompliance items issued by the Missouri Department of Agriculture or the USDA that had a serious or severe adverse effect on the health and well-being of the animal. "Direct violation" means a critical noncompliance item that is currently, at the time of inspection by the Missouri Department of Agriculture or the USDA, had a serious or severe adverse effect on the health and well-being of the animal. "Dealer" means any person who is engaged in the business of buying for resale, selling or exchanging animals, as a principal or agent, or who holds himself out to be so engaged or is otherwise classified as a dealer by the USDA as defined by regulations of the USDA. "Pet shop" means any facility where animals are bought, sold, exchanged, or offered for retail sale to the general public.

**Introduction Date:** 2024-01-03

State  
**MO**

Bill Number  
**SB 995**

Last Action  
**Second Read And Referred S Health  
And Welfare Committee 2024 01 25**

Status  
**In Senate**

**Title**  
Modifies provisions relating to abuse and neglect reporting, including a requirement to report companion animal abuse

**Primary Sponsors**  
Tracy McCreery

**Bill Summary:** Last edited by Jeff Plummer at Dec 7, 2023, 3:41 PM  
Amends Title XII (Public Health & Welfare), Chapters 192 (Dept. of Health & Senior Services) and 210 (Child Protection and Reformation) of the Revised Statutes of Missouri by adding new sections to require veterinarians, animal control officers, and animal humane investigators to be mandated reporters in cases of abuse and neglect of children, the elderly, and other vulnerable persons. Provides that any animal control officers or animal humane investigators shall be required to receive one hour of training within the first 60 days of employment to recognize the signs of abuse or neglect in children, the elderly, and vulnerable persons. Creates a mandated reporting requirement for certain mental health, educational, protective services, and law enforcement personnel to report cases of companion animal abuse or neglect to a hotline established by the Missouri Animal Control Association. Provides that a mandated reporter who fails to make a report shall be subject to discipline by his or her professional licensing board, as well as a fine. For purposes of this section: "Companion animal" is defined in the act as a living creature maintained by a household for companionship and not commercial purposes.

**Introduction Date:** 2024-01-03

State  
**MO**

Bill Number  
**SB 1259**

Last Action  
**Second Read And Referred S Health  
And Welfare Committee 2024 01 25**

Status  
**In Senate**

**Title**  
Modifies provisions relating to abuse and neglect reporting, including a requirement to report companion animal abuse

**Primary Sponsors**  
Travis Fitzwater

**Bill Summary:** Last edited by Jeff Plummer at Dec 13, 2023, 5:09 PM  
Amends Title XII (Public Health & Welfare), Chapters 192 (Dept. of Health & Senior Services) and 210 (Child Protection and Reformation) of the Revised Statutes of Missouri by adding new sections to require veterinarians, animal control officers, and animal humane investigators to be mandated reporters in cases of abuse and neglect of children, the elderly, and other vulnerable persons. Provides that any animal control officers or animal humane investigators shall be required to receive one hour of training within the first 60 days of employment to recognize the signs of abuse or neglect in children, the elderly, and vulnerable persons. Creates a mandated reporting requirement for certain mental health, educational, protective services, and law enforcement personnel to report cases of companion animal abuse or neglect to a hotline established by the Missouri Animal Control Association. Provides that a mandated reporter who fails to make a report shall be subject to discipline by his or her professional licensing board, as well as a fine. For purposes of this section: "Companion animal" is defined in the act as a living creature maintained by a household for companionship and not commercial purposes.

**Introduction Date:** 2024-01-03