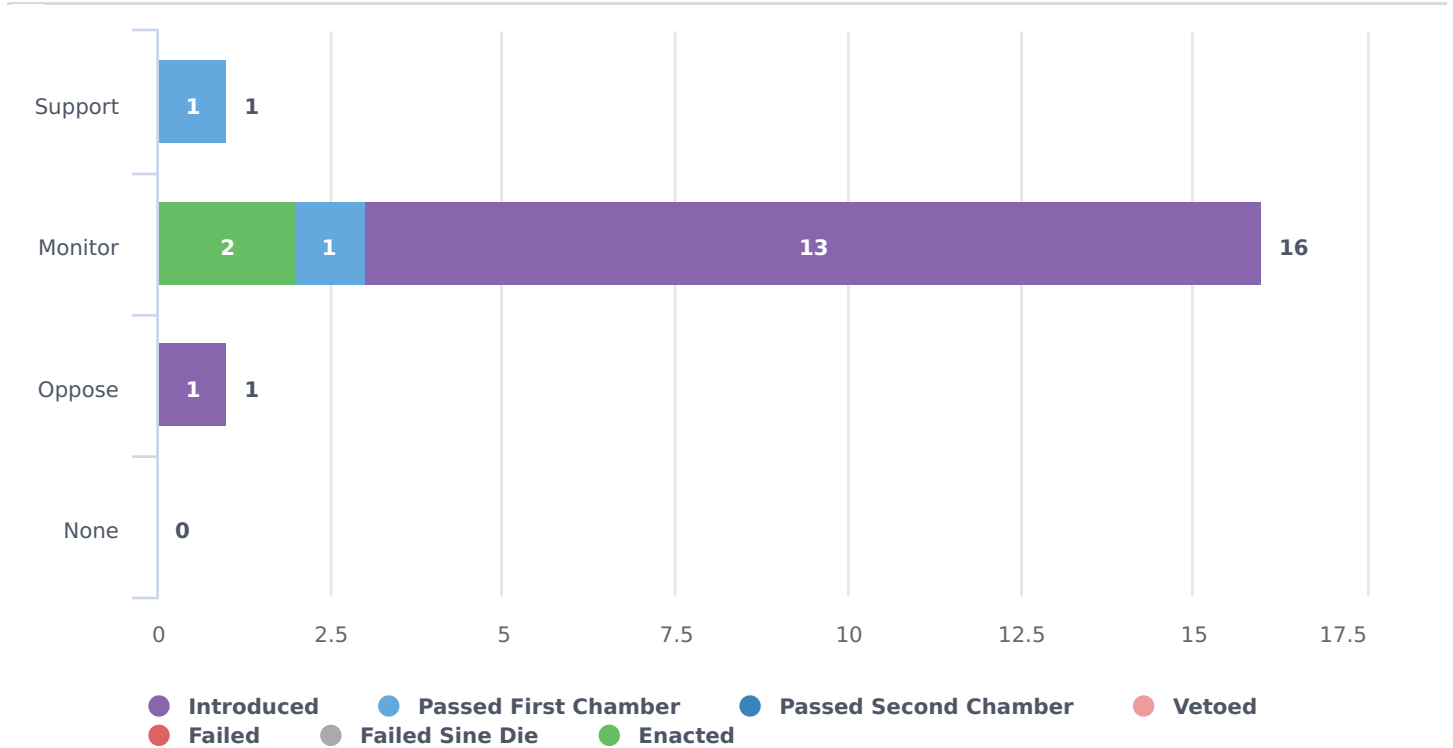


North Carolina - 2023-24 Legislative Overview

Last Updated: July 09, 2024

Bills by Last Status and Position



Bill State: NC (18)

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status	Position
NC	HB 226	Re Ref Com On Judiciary 1 2023 03 21	In House	Monitor

Title
End Predatory Pet Leasing.

Primary Sponsors
Wesley Harris, Mitchell Setzer

Bill Summary: Last edited by Jeff Plummer at Mar 1, 2023, 2:24 PM
Amends Chapter 19A (Protection of Animals) of NC General Statutes by adding a new Article 7 (Miscellaneous Provisions) to establish a prohibition on certain leases, offers to lease, sales, and offers to sell cats and dogs. Provides that a person shall not lease, offer to lease, sell, or offer to sell any living cat or dog for personal, family, or household use if the lease, offer to lease, sale, or offer to sell includes or is subject to any provision authorizing the use of the living cat or dog as security where the living cat or dog may be repossessed by the seller or lender contingent on the purchaser making payments. Provides that this section shall not apply to any of the following: 1) An agreement to lease a purebred dog that is recorded with a national purebred dog registry for the sole and express purpose of breeding, pursuant to a written agreement that specifies a term of validity; 2) An agreement to use a dog or cat in a show, exhibition, or other spectator event, in a motion picture or other audiovisual media, or in another entertainment such as racing events, field trials, or rodeos. 3) An agreement relating to the training or use of a service dog as defined by the Americans with Disability Act, or a dog that is a service animal as defined in G.S. 20-187.4(b); or 4) An agreement relating to the training or use of a security dog, police or other law enforcement dog, or military working dog used by a political subdivision of North Carolina or by a business entity. Provides that a person who violates this section is guilty of a Class 2 misdemeanor. Provides that nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit the purchase of a living cat or dog through an unsecured personal loan.

Introduction Date: 2023-02-28

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status	Position
NC	HB 441	Ref To The Com On Judiciary 1 If Favorable Rules Calendar And Operations Of The House 2023 03 23	In House	Monitor

Title
Clarify Animal Welfare Act.

Primary Sponsors
Jeff McNeely, Grey Mills, Mitchell Setzer

Bill Summary: Last edited by Jeff Plummer at Mar 23, 2023, 2:16 PM
Amends Chapter 19A (Protection of Animals), Article 3 (Animal Welfare Act), Section 19A-23 (Definitions) of North Carolina General Statutes to exempt certain dog training and obedience services from the definition of "pet shop". Adds provision that a person or establishment that provides dog training and obedience services and that derives less than ten percent (10%) of its gross receipts from the sale of animals is not considered a pet shop for purposes of this Article.

Introduction Date: 2023-03-22

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status	Position
NC	HB 551	Ref To Com On Rules And Operations Of The Senate 2023 05 01	In Senate	Monitor

Title
Landlord-Tenant and HOA Changes.

Primary Sponsors
John Bradford, Jon Hardister, Kyle Hall

Bill Summary: Last edited by Jeff Plummer at Apr 4, 2023, 2:37 PM
Amends Title 42 (Landlord and Tenant), Article 5 (Residential Rental Agreements) of North Carolina General Statutes by adding a new Section 42-47 (Support and service animals - nondiscrimination) to regulate support animals and service animals in residential tenancies. Provides that, based, in part, upon a tenant, applicant, or household member's status as a person with a disability or use of a service animal or a support animal, a landlord shall not do any of the following: (1) Terminate or fail to renew a tenancy; (2) Refuse to enter into a rental agreement; (3) Impose different terms, conditions, or privileges in the rental of a dwelling; or (4) Otherwise make unavailable a dwelling unit or otherwise retaliate in the rental of a dwelling. Provides penalties for knowingly misrepresenting a service or support animal to a landlord. For purposes of this section: "Support animal" means a companion animal that a health service professional has determined provides a benefit for a person with a disability. The term also includes an assistance animal, as defined in G.S. 14-163.1(a)(1). "Assistance animal" means an animal that is trained and may be used to assist a "person with a disability" as defined in G.S. 168A-3. The term "assistance animal" is not limited to a dog and includes any animal trained to assist a person with a disability as provided in Article 1 of Chapter 168 of the General Statutes. "Service animal" means an animal trained to assist a person with a disability.

Introduction Date: 2023-04-03

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status	Position
NC	HB 600	Ch SI 2023 137 2023 10 10	Enacted	Monitor

Title
Regulatory Reform Act of 2023.

Primary Sponsors
Dennis Riddell, Jeff Zenger, Mark Brody, Allen Chesser

Bill Summary: Last edited by Jeff Plummer at Apr 14, 2023, 2:11 PM
Amends Chapter 19A (Protection of Animals), Article 3 (Animal Welfare Act), Section 19A-32.1 (Minimum holding period for animals in animal shelters; public viewing of animals in animal shelters; disposition of animals) and Chapter 130A (Public Health), Article 6 (Communicable Diseases), Section 130A-192 (Animals not wearing required rabies vaccination tags) of North Carolina General Statutes regarding the disposition of unowned cats surrendered to an animal shelter. Adds provision that healthy cats impounded at a shelter without discernible indicia of ownership may be sterilized, ear-tipped, vaccinated for rabies, administered other vaccinations as recommended by the treating veterinarian, and returned to the location where trapped with no minimum hold requirements under this section. Provides that animal shelters shall maintain a record of cats disposed of as set forth in this section.

Introduction Date: 2023-04-13

Title

Eva's Act.

Primary Sponsors

Tim Longest, Bill Ward, Allison Dahle, Pricey Harrison

Bill Summary: Last edited by Jeff Plummer at Oct 3, 2023, 3:16 PM

"Eva's Law" amends Chapter 14 (Criminal Law), Article 47 (Cruelty to Animals), Section 14-360 (Cruelty to animals; construction of section) to add definitions for adequate space (to include tethering standards) and freedom of movement. Provides that persons who: (1) Intentionally overdrive, overload, wound, injure, torment, or kill an animal, or deprive any animal of necessary sustenance, ADEQUATE SHELTER, OR ADEQUATE SPACE; or (2) Cause or procure any animal to be overdriven, overloaded, wounded, injured, tormented, killed, or deprived of necessary sustenance, ADEQUATE SHELTER, OR ADEQUATE SPACE are guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor, with each act constituting a separate offense. For purposes of this section: "Animal" means every living vertebrate in the classes Amphibia, Reptilia, Aves, and Mammalia except human beings. "Adequate shelter" means shelter that: (1) Is suitable for the species, age, condition, size, and type of each animal; (2) Protects each animal from injury, rain, sleet, snow, hail, direct sunlight, the adverse effects of heat or cold, physical suffering, and impairment of health; (3) Is properly lighted and cleaned and enables each animal to remain clean and dry, except when detrimental to the species; (4) Is properly shaded and does not readily conduct heat during periods when the ambient air temperature at the shelter is greater than 85 degrees Fahrenheit; (5) Provides a windbreak at its entrance and, during periods when the ambient air temperature at the shelter is less than 32 degrees Fahrenheit, bedding material consisting of straw, cedar shavings, or the equivalent sufficient to protect the animal from cold and promote the retention of body heat; (6) For dogs and cats, provides a solid surface, resting platform, pad, floormat, or similar device that is large enough for the animal to lie on in a normal manner and can be maintained in a sanitary manner; (7) Does not (a) Permit the animals' feet to pass through the openings of wire, grid, or slat floors, and (b) Sag under the animals' weight. "Adequate space" for an animal that is tethered means all of the following: (1) The tether to which the animal is attached permits freedom of movement and is appropriate to the age and size of the animal; is attached to the animal by a properly applied collar, halter, or harness configured so as to protect the animal from injury and prevent the animal or tether from becoming entangled with other objects or animals or from extending over an object or edge that could result in the strangulation or injury of the animal. (2) The tether is at least 15 feet in length or four times the length of the animal, as measured from the tip of its nose to the base of its tail, whichever is greater, except when the animal is being walked on a leash or is attached by a tether to a lead line; does not, by its material, size, or weight or any other characteristic, cause injury or pain to the animal. (3) The tether does not weigh more than one-tenth of the animal's body weight and does not have weights or other heavy objects attached to it. (4) Tethering does not include the walking of an animal on a leash.

Introduction Date: 2023-04-18

State
NC

Bill Number
HB 828

Last Action
**Ref To The Com On Judiciary 1 If
Favorable Rules Calendar And
Operations Of The House 2023 04 19**

Status
In House

Position
Monitor

Title

Confidentiality of Animal Services Records.

Primary Sponsors

Marcia Morey, John Autry, Vernetta Alston, Deb Butler

Bill Summary: Last edited by Jeff Plummer at Apr 19, 2023, 2:41 PM

Amends Chapter 132 (Public Records) of North Carolina General Statutes by adding a new Section 132-1.15 to provide that personally identifiable records relating to county animal services are not public records. Provides that personally identifiable information held by an animal shelter that relates to any of the following is not a public record: (1) An individual who has surrendered ownership, custody, or possession of an animal to an animal shelter; (2) An individual who has placed an animal in a long-term hold or foster program designed to hold animals due to domestic violence situations; (3) An individual who has adopted a shelter animal or to whom a shelter animal has been placed through a foster program; or (4) The disposition of animals confiscated. Provides that when a county animal control service places animals with an animal rescue organization, the identity of the animal rescue organization is a public record. Provides that disclosure or nondisclosure of information that is not a public record under this section may be made in the county's discretion. For purposes of this section: "Animal shelter" means a facility which is used to house or contain seized, stray, homeless, quarantined, abandoned or unwanted animals and which is under contract with, owned, operated, or maintained by a county, city, town, or other municipality, or by a duly incorporated humane society, animal welfare society, society for the prevention of cruelty to animals, or other nonprofit organization devoted to the welfare, protection, rehabilitation, or humane treatment of animals.

Introduction Date: 2023-04-18

State

NC

Bill Number

HB 922

Last Action

**Ref To The Com On Appropriations If
Favorable Rules Calendar And
Operations Of The House 2024 05 01**

Status

In House

Position

Monitor

Title

Marine Life Protection Act.

Primary Sponsors

Pricey Harrison, John Autry, Deb Butler, Mary Belk

Bill Summary: Last edited by Jeff Plummer at Apr 30, 2024, 5:46 PM

The "Marine Life Protection Act" amends Chapter 130A (Public Health), Article 9 (Solid Waste Management) of North Carolina General Statutes by adding a new Part 2K (Management of Certain Balloon Releases) to prohibit and penalize certain balloon releases. Provides that it is unlawful for any person to engage in a balloon release. Provides that a violation of this section shall be enforced by any law enforcement officer as an infraction. The Secretary of Environmental Quality may also impose an administrative penalty on a person violating this section as set forth in G.S. 130A-22a (Administrative Penalties). For purposes of this section: "Balloon release" means the knowing and intentional release of balloons by a person or through the operation of a device controlled by a person, and subsequent littering of released balloons or portions of released balloons, except for any of the following: (1) Balloons released by a person on behalf of a government agency or pursuant to a contract for scientific or meteorological purposes; (2) Hot air balloons that are recovered after launching; or (3) A balloon release that occurs and is contained entirely within a building, tent, or other construct that prevents the balloons from reaching the environment. Whereas clauses: Whereas, the strings tied to balloons can get tangled around birds and other wildlife, asphyxiating them or tying them to one spot until they die of hunger. Whereas, balloon litter has been identified as among the five deadliest types of marine debris in terms of risk posed to marine life. Whereas, many marine and aquatic animals drown when they become entangled in a trailing ribbon or string.

Introduction Date: 2024-04-30

Title
Eva's Act.

Primary Sponsors
Tim Longest, Bill Ward, Allison Dahle, Pricey Harrison

Bill Summary: Last edited by Jeff Plummer at May 6, 2024, 12:00 PM

"Eva's Law" amends Chapter 14 (Criminal Law), Article 47 (Cruelty to Animals), Section 14-360 (Cruelty to animals; construction of section) to add definitions for adequate space (to include tethering standards) and freedom of movement. Provides that persons who: (1) Intentionally overdrive, overload, wound, injure, torment, or kill an animal, or deprive any animal of necessary sustenance, ADEQUATE SHELTER, OR ADEQUATE SPACE; or (2) Cause or procure any animal to be overdriven, overloaded, wounded, injured, tormented, killed, or deprived of necessary sustenance, ADEQUATE SHELTER, OR ADEQUATE SPACE are guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor, with each act constituting a separate offense. For purposes of this section: "Animal" means every living vertebrate in the classes Amphibia, Reptilia, Aves, and Mammalia except human beings. "Adequate shelter" means shelter that: (1) Is suitable for the species, age, condition, size, and type of each animal; (2) Protects each animal from injury, rain, sleet, snow, hail, direct sunlight, the adverse effects of heat or cold, physical suffering, and impairment of health; (3) Is properly lighted and cleaned and enables each animal to remain clean and dry, except when detrimental to the species; (4) Is properly shaded and does not readily conduct heat during periods when the ambient air temperature at the shelter is greater than 85 degrees Fahrenheit; (5) Provides a windbreak at its entrance and, during periods when the ambient air temperature at the shelter is less than 32 degrees Fahrenheit, bedding material consisting of straw, cedar shavings, or the equivalent sufficient to protect the animal from cold and promote the retention of body heat; (6) For dogs and cats, provides a solid surface, resting platform, pad, floormat, or similar device that is large enough for the animal to lie on in a normal manner and can be maintained in a sanitary manner; (7) Does not (a) Permit the animals' feet to pass through the openings of wire, grid, or slat floors, and (b) Sag under the animals' weight. "Adequate space" for an animal that is tethered means all of the following: (1) The tether to which the animal is attached permits freedom of movement and is appropriate to the age and size of the animal; is attached to the animal by a properly applied collar, halter, or harness configured so as to protect the animal from injury and prevent the animal or tether from becoming entangled with other objects or animals or from extending over an object or edge that could result in the strangulation or injury of the animal. (2) The tether is at least 15 feet in length or four times the length of the animal, as measured from the tip of its nose to the base of its tail, whichever is greater, except when the animal is being walked on a leash or is attached by a tether to a lead line; does not, by its material, size, or weight or any other characteristic, cause injury or pain to the animal. (3) The tether does not weigh more than one-tenth of the animal's body weight and does not have weights or other heavy objects attached to it. (4) Tethering does not include the walking of an animal on a leash. Provides that the sum of \$50,000 for the 2024-2025 fiscal year is appropriated to the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services for a public awareness campaign conducted by the Department's Animal Welfare Section regarding the changes to animal cruelty laws made by this act.

Introduction Date: 2024-05-02

Title

Vet Care for Retired Law Enforcement Dogs.

Primary Sponsors

Karl Gillespie, John Bradford, Dudley Greene, Carolyn Logan

Bill Summary: Last edited by Jeff Plummer at May 6, 2024, 12:17 PM

Amends Chapter 143 (State Departments, Institutions, and Commissions) of North Carolina General Statutes by adding a new Article 121 (Retired Law Enforcement Canine Veterinary Care Reimbursements) to provide for a system of veterinary care reimbursement for retired law enforcement canines. Provides that, when a retired law enforcement canine receives veterinary care, the owner of the canine may apply to the Department of Public Safety pursuant to the provisions of this Article for the reimbursement of that care up to the amount of \$1,500 in each calendar year. Establishes within the Department of Public Safety the Retired Law Enforcement Canine Fund. Provides that the Department of Public Safety shall have the power to make necessary rules and regulations for the administration of the provisions of this Article and shall have the authority to use up to one percent (1%) of monies received by the Retired Law Enforcement Canine Fund for the purpose of administering the Fund. Provides that the Department of Public Safety shall be vested with the power to make all determinations necessary for the administration of this Article and all of its decisions and determinations shall be final and conclusive and not subject to review or reversal except by the Secretary of the Department of Public Safety or the Secretary's designee. For purposes of this section: "Retired law enforcement canine" means canine meeting each of the following criteria: (1) It was previously in the service of or employed by a law enforcement agency or a correctional agency for the principal purpose of aiding in the detection of criminal activity, the enforcement of laws, the apprehension of offenders, and search and rescue operations; or (2) It served or was employed by one or more law enforcement agencies or correctional agencies and it received certification in obedience, apprehension, or search and rescue work from a national organization that certifies canines perming that type of work. "Veterinary care means the practice, by a veterinarian, of veterinary medicine as defined in G.S. 90-181 to include, at a minimum, each of the following: (1) Annual wellness examinations; (2) b. Vaccinations; (3) Internal and external parasite prevention treatments; (4) Testing and treatment of illnesses and diseases; (5) Medications; (6) Emergency care and surgeries; (7) Veterinary oncology or other specialty care; (8) Euthanasia; or (9) Cremation. Veterinary care shall not include elective surgery.

Introduction Date: 2024-05-02

State NC	Bill Number HB 1051	Last Action Ref To The Com On Wildlife Resources If Favorable Appropriations If Favorable Rules Calendar And Operations Of The House 2024 05 07	Status In House	Position Monitor
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Title
Invasive Species Control and Prevention.

Primary Sponsors
B. Ray Jeffers

Bill Summary: Last edited by Jeff Plummer at May 6, 2024, 12:46 PM

Amends Chapter 113 (Conservation & Development), Article 12 (General Definitions), Section 113-129 (Definitions relating to resources) and Article 22 (Regulation of Wildlife) of North Carolina General Statutes by adding new subdivisions to: (1) Define "invasive species"; (2) Establish the Invasive Species Management Fund; and (3) Provide for departmental promulgation of rules regarding the control of invasive species (to include nongame invasive species). Subdivision 113-129-10a (Invasive Species): Defines Invasive species as any of the following: (1) Coyote (*Canis latrans*); (2) European starling (*Sturnus vulgaris*); (3) Feral swine (*Sus scrofa*); (4) Grass carp (*Ctenopharyngodon idella*); (5) Lionfish (*Pterois volitans*); (6) Nutria (*Myocastor coypus*); (7) Exotic species regulated by the Wildlife Resources Commission under G.S. 113-292(d), and any other species not native to the State that the Wildlife Resources Commission, in consultation with the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, determines to be a threat to native ecosystems, a threat to introduce epizotic diseases to native species, or a risk to agriculture. New Subdivision 113-292.1 (Control of invasive species): Provides that, with respect to invasive species that the Wildlife Resources Commission finds are not game animals or game birds, the Commission shall develop programs to encourage control of those species by State agencies, local governments, private landowners, hunters, and trappers. New Subdivision 113-292.2 (Invasive Species Management Fund): Establishes the Invasive Species Management Fund as a special revenue fund to consist of General Fund appropriations, gifts, grants, devises, funds contributed by non-State entities, and any other revenues or receipts of the Wildlife Resources Commission specifically allocated to the Fund by an act of the General Assembly. Included in the use of the fund is the establishment of a Rapid Response Team (RRT) composed of representatives of the Wildlife Resources Commission, the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, and the Division of Marine Fisheries of the Department of Environmental Quality. Upon a request from the Executive Director of the Wildlife Resources Commission, the RRT shall evaluate the information provided and the severity and risk level of the invasive species discovered in the State and coordinate a response to address the immediate needs for response, public notification, and education.

Introduction Date: 2024-05-02

State NC	Bill Number SB 135	Last Action Ch SI 2023 81 2023 07 07	Status Enacted	Position Monitor
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Title
Registered Vet. Tech. Modification.

Primary Sponsors
Bill Rabon

Bill Summary: Last edited by Jeff Plummer at Feb 21, 2023, 5:58 PM
Amends Chapter 90 (Medicine & Allied Occupations), Article 11 (Veterinarians), Section 190-187.6 (Veterinary technicians and staff) of NC General Statutes to prevent persons from using a title or abbreviation indicating the qualification as a registered veterinary technician registered with the NC Veterinary Medical Board. Adds provision that no person shall use the title "registered veterinary technician" or the title "veterinary technician," the abbreviation "R.V.T.," or any other words, letters, or symbols, with the intent to represent that the person is authorized to act as a registered veterinary technician, unless that person is licensed by or registered with the Board as a registered veterinary technician in accordance with this Article.

Introduction Date: 2023-02-20

State NC	Bill Number SB 457	Last Action Ref To Com On Rules And Operations Of The Senate 2023 04 03	Status In Senate	Position Monitor
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Title
Amend Animal Fighting & Welfare Laws.

Primary Sponsors
Mike Woodard, Tim Moffitt

Bill Summary: Last edited by Jeff Plummer at Mar 31, 2023, 1:00 PM
Amends Chapter 67 (Dogs), Article 1A (Dangerous Dogs), Section 67-4.5 (Local Ordinances) of North Carolina General Statutes to prohibit local breed-specific dog ordinances. Adds provision that nothing in this Article shall be construed to prevent a city or county from adopting or enforcing its own program for control of dangerous dogs consistent with this Article, EXCEPT THAT NO CITY OR COUNTY MAY DESIGNATE ALL DOGS OF A PARTICULAR BREED AS DANGEROUS.

Introduction Date: 2023-03-30

State NC	Bill Number SB 511	Last Action Ref To Com On Rules And Operations Of The Senate 2023 04 04	Status In Senate	Position Monitor
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Title
Stray Hold Regulatory Changes.

Primary Sponsors
Bobby Hanig, Alexander

Bill Summary: Last edited by Jeff Plummer at Apr 4, 2023, 2:45 PM
Amends Chapter 19A (Protection of Animals), Article 3 (Animal Welfare Act), Section 19A-32.1 (Minimum holding period for animals in animal shelters; public viewing of animals in animal shelters; disposition of animals) and Chapter 130A (Public Health), Article 6 (Communicable Diseases), Section 130A-192 (Animals not wearing required rabies vaccination tags) of North Carolina General Statutes regarding the disposition of unowned cats surrendered to an animal shelter. Adds provision that healthy cats impounded at a shelter without discernible indicia of ownership may be sterilized, ear-tipped, vaccinated for rabies, administered other vaccinations as recommended by the treating veterinarian, and returned to the location where trapped with no minimum hold requirements under this section. Provides that animal shelters shall maintain a record of cats disposed of as set forth in this section.

Introduction Date: 2023-04-03

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status	Position
NC	SB 553	Ref To Com On Rules And Operations Of The Senate 2023 04 05	In Senate	Monitor

Title
Landlord-Tenant and HOA Changes.

Primary Sponsors
Jim Perry, Dave Craven, Tim Moffitt

Bill Summary: Last edited by Jeff Plummer at Apr 4, 2023, 3:11 PM
Amends Title 42 (Landlord and Tenant), Article 5 (Residential Rental Agreements) of North Carolina General Statutes by adding a new Section 42-47 (Support and service animals - nondiscrimination) to regulate support animals and service animals in residential tenancies. Provides that, based, in part, upon a tenant, applicant, or household member's status as a person with a disability or use of a service animal or a support animal, a landlord shall not do any of the following: (1) Terminate or fail to renew a tenancy; (2) Refuse to enter into a rental agreement; (3) Impose different terms, conditions, or privileges in the rental of a dwelling; or (4) Otherwise make unavailable a dwelling unit or otherwise retaliate in the rental of a dwelling. Provides penalties for knowingly misrepresenting a service or support animal to a landlord. For purposes of this section: "Support animal" means a companion animal that a health service professional has determined provides a benefit for a person with a disability. The term also includes an assistance animal, as defined in G.S. 14-163.1(a)(1). "Assistance animal" means an animal that is trained and may be used to assist a "person with a disability" as defined in G.S. 168A-3. The term "assistance animal" is not limited to a dog and includes any animal trained to assist a person with a disability as provided in Article 1 of Chapter 168 of the General Statutes. "Service animal" means an animal trained to assist a person with a disability.

Introduction Date: 2023-04-04

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status	Position
NC	SB 603	Ref To Com On Rules And Operations Of The Senate 2023 04 06	In Senate	Monitor

Title
Confidentiality of Animal Services Records.

Primary Sponsors
Natasha Marcus, Tim Moffitt, Benton Sawrey

Bill Summary: Last edited by Jeff Plummer at Apr 5, 2023, 12:40 PM
Amends Chapter 132 (Public Records) of North Carolina General Statutes by adding a new Section 132-1.15 to provide that personally identifiable records relating to county animal services are not public records Provides that personally identifiable information held by an animal shelter that relates to any of the following is not a public record: (1) An individual who has surrendered ownership, custody, or possession of an animal to an animal shelter; (2) An individual who has placed an animal in a long-term hold or foster program designed to hold animals due to domestic violence situations; (3) An individual who has adopted a shelter animal or to whom a shelter animal has been placed through a foster program; or (4) The disposition of animals confiscated. Provides that when a county animal control service places animals with an animal rescue organization, the identity of the animal rescue organization is a public record. Provides that disclosure or nondisclosure of information that is not a public record under this section may be made in the county's discretion. For purposes of this section: "Animal shelter" means a facility which is used to house or contain seized, stray, homeless, quarantined, abandoned or unwanted animals and which is under contract with, owned, operated, or maintained by a county, city, town, or other municipality, or by a duly incorporated humane society, animal welfare society, society for the prevention of cruelty to animals, or other nonprofit organization devoted to the welfare, protection, rehabilitation, or humane treatment of animals.

Introduction Date: 2023-04-05

Title

Revise Animal Cruelty Laws.

Primary Sponsors

Mike Woodard

Bill Summary: Last edited by Jeff Plummer at Oct 3, 2023, 3:16 PM

"Eva's Law" amends Chapter 14 (Criminal Law), Article 47 (Cruelty to Animals), Section 14-360 (Cruelty to animals; construction of section) of NC General Statutes to include failure to provide adequate space or shelter in certain animal cruelty offenses. Provides that persons who: (1) Intentionally overdrive, overload, wound, injure, torment, or kill an animal, or deprive any animal of necessary sustenance, ADEQUATE SHELTER, OR ADEQUATE SPACE; or (2) Cause or procure any animal to be overdriven, overloaded, wounded, injured, tormented, killed, or deprived of necessary sustenance, ADEQUATE SHELTER, OR ADEQUATE SPACE are guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor, with each act constituting a separate offense. For purposes of this section: "Animal" means every living vertebrate in the classes Amphibia, Reptilia, Aves, and Mammalia except human beings. "Adequate shelter" means shelter that: (1) Is suitable for the species, age, condition, size, and type of each animal; (2) Protects each animal from injury, rain, sleet, snow, hail, direct sunlight, the adverse effects of heat or cold, physical suffering, and impairment of health; (3) Is properly lighted and cleaned and enables each animal to remain clean and dry, except when detrimental to the species; (4) Is properly shaded and does not readily conduct heat during periods when the ambient air temperature at the shelter is greater than 85 degrees Fahrenheit; (5) Provides a windbreak at its entrance and, during periods when the ambient air temperature at the shelter is less than 32 degrees Fahrenheit, bedding material consisting of straw, cedar shavings, or the equivalent sufficient to protect the animal from cold and promote the retention of body heat; (6) For dogs and cats, provides a solid surface, resting platform, pad, floormat, or similar device that is large enough for the animal to lie on in a normal manner and can be maintained in a sanitary manner; (7) Does not (a) Permit the animals' feet to pass through the openings of wire, grid, or slat floors, and (b) Sag under the animals' weight. "Adequate space" for an animal that is tethered means all of the following: (1) The tether to which the animal is attached permits freedom of movement and is appropriate to the age and size of the animal; is attached to the animal by a properly applied collar, halter, or harness configured so as to protect the animal from injury and prevent the animal or tether from becoming entangled with other objects or animals or from extending over an object or edge that could result in the strangulation or injury of the animal. (2) The tether is at least 15 feet in length or four times the length of the animal, as measured from the tip of its nose to the base of its tail, whichever is greater, except when the animal is being walked on a leash or is attached by a tether to a lead line; does not, by its material, size, or weight or any other characteristic, cause injury or pain to the animal. (3) The tether does not weigh more than one-tenth of the animal's body weight and does not have weights or other heavy objects attached to it. (4) Tethering does not include the walking of an animal on a leash.

Introduction Date: 2023-04-06

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status	Position
NC	SB 834	Ref To Com On Rules And Operations Of The Senate 2024 05 06	In Senate	Monitor

Title
Invasive Species Control and Prevention.

Primary Sponsors
Sydney Batch, Smith

Bill Summary: Last edited by Jeff Plummer at May 6, 2024, 12:45 PM
Amends Chapter 113 (Conservation & Development), Article 12 (General Definitions), Section 113-129 (Definitions relating to resources) and Article 22 (Regulation of Wildlife) of North Carolina General Statutes by adding new subdivisions to: (1) Define "invasive species"; (2) Establish the Invasive Species Management Fund; and (3) Provide for departmental promulgation of rules regarding the control of invasive species (to include nongame invasive species). Subdivision 113-129-10a (Invasive Species): Defines Invasive species as any of the following: (1) Coyote (*Canis latrans*); (2) European starling (*Sturnus vulgaris*); (3) Feral swine (*Sus scrofa*); (4) Grass carp (*Ctenopharyngodon idella*); (5) Lionfish (*Pterois volitans*); (6) Nutria (*Myocastor coypus*); (7) Exotic species regulated by the Wildlife Resources Commission under G.S. 113-292(d), and any other species not native to the State that the Wildlife Resources Commission, in consultation with the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, determines to be a threat to native ecosystems, a threat to introduce epizotic diseases to native species, or a risk to agriculture. New Subdivision 113-292.1 (Control of invasive species): Provides that, with respect to invasive species that the Wildlife Resources Commission finds are not game animals or game birds, the Commission shall develop programs to encourage control of those species by State agencies, local governments, private landowners, hunters, and trappers. New Subdivision 113-292.2 (Invasive Species Management Fund): Establishes the Invasive Species Management Fund as a special revenue fund to consist of General Fund appropriations, gifts, grants, devises, funds contributed by non-State entities, and any other revenues or receipts of the Wildlife Resources Commission specifically allocated to the Fund by an act of the General Assembly. Included in the use of the fund is the establishment of a Rapid Response Team (RRT) composed of representatives of the Wildlife Resources Commission, the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, and the Division of Marine Fisheries of the Department of Environmental Quality. Upon a request from the Executive Director of the Wildlife Resources Commission, the RRT shall evaluate the information provided and the severity and risk level of the invasive species discovered in the State and coordinate a response to address the immediate needs for response, public notification, and education.

Introduction Date: 2024-05-02

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status	Position
NC	SB 861	Ref To Com On Rules And Operations Of The Senate 2024 05 06	In Senate	Oppose

Title
Repeal Service Tax.

Primary Sponsors
Sydney Batch, Michael Garrett, Smith

Bill Summary: Last edited by Jeff Plummer at May 6, 2024, 1:12 PM
Ominbus tax bill amends Chapter 105 (Taxation), Article 5 (Sales & Use Tax), Suidivision 105-164.13 (Retail Sales & Use Tax) of North Carolina General Statutes to repeal certain sales & use tax exemptions (to include certain services performed on animals. Repeals the current exemption from the State's retail sale and use tax for "a service performed on an animal, such as hoof shoeing and microchipping a pet".

Introduction Date: 2024-05-02

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