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AB-1781 Safe transportation of dogs and cats. (2021-2022)

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Assembly Bill No. 1781

CHAPTER 80

An act to add Chapter 12 (commencing with Section 122390) to Part 6 of Division 105 of the Health and Safety Code, relating to public health.

[Approved by Governor July 01, 2022. Filed with Secretary of State July 01, 2022.]

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1781, Blanca Rubio. Safe transportation of dogs and cats.

Existing law governs the retail sale of dogs and cats by pet dealers, as defined, and establishes minimum standards for the care of those animals, as specified. Existing law makes it a crime to leave or confine an animal in an unattended motor vehicle under conditions that endanger the health or well-being of an animal due to heat, cold, lack of adequate ventilation, lack of food or water, or other circumstances that could reasonably be expected to cause suffering, disability, or death to the animal.

This bill would require the conditions in a mobile or traveling housing facility, as defined, for dogs and cats to not endanger the health or well-being of an animal due to heat, cold, lack of adequate ventilation, lack of food or water, or other circumstances that could reasonably be expected to cause suffering, disability, or death to the animal. The bill would apply to public and private organizations, including animal shelters, rescue groups, and humane society shelters.

Vote: majority Appropriation: no Fiscal Committee: no Local Program: no

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. The Legislature finds and declares all of the following:

- (a) Californians care deeply about dogs, cats, and other animals that find their way into the care of animal control agencies around the state. The official state pet of California is the Shelter Pet.
- (b) California experiences extreme temperatures throughout the state, which are being exacerbated by climate change.
- (c) The State of California recognizes the need to prevent the suffering of animals due to extreme temperatures when left in unattended vehicles by providing immunity from civil liability for good Samaritans who save animals in distress.
- (d) Animal control agencies around the state pick up thousands of animals every year and transport them to shelters and other facilities for care regardless of weather or temperature conditions.
- (e) Ensuring animals that are being transported are protected from the elements and adverse weather will prevent unnecessary suffering.

SEC. 2. Chapter 12 (commencing with Section 122390) is added to Part 6 of Division 105 of the Health and Safety Code, to read:

CHAPTER 12. Safe Transportation of Dogs and Cats

122390. This chapter shall be known, and may be cited, as the Safe Transportation of Dogs and Cats Act.

122390.1. For purposes of this chapter, “mobile or traveling housing facility” means a transporting vehicle, including, but not limited to, a car, truck, trailer, bus, or recreational vehicle used to transport animals by an entity described in Section 122390.3.

122390.2. The conditions in a mobile or traveling housing facility for dogs and cats shall not endanger the health or well-being of an animal due to heat, cold, lack of adequate ventilation, lack of food or water, or other circumstances that could reasonably be expected to cause suffering, disability, or death to the animal.

122390.3. This chapter applies to any public animal control agency or shelter, society for the prevention of cruelty to animals shelter, humane society shelter, or rescue group that is in a cooperative agreement with at least one private or public shelter pursuant to Section 31108, 31752, or 31753 of the Food and Agricultural Code.