

1 AN ACT concerning regulation.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**  
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 1. Short title. This Act may be cited as the  
5 Research Dogs and Cats Adoption Act.

6 Section 5. Definitions. As used in this Act:

7 "Animal adoption organization" means a non-profit  
8 organization authorized to conduct affairs in this State,  
9 incorporated for the purpose of adopting animals in need and  
10 finding permanent, adoptive homes for the animals and licensed  
11 as an animal shelter under the Animal Welfare Act.

12 "Attending veterinarian" means a person who is in the  
13 employ of the research facility and who meets the definition of  
14 attending veterinarian in regulations promulgated under the  
15 federal Animal Welfare Act (9 CFR 1.1).

16 "Public funds" means appropriated and non-appropriated  
17 funding from the State or federal government.

18 "Research facility" means an institution of higher  
19 education located in this State that utilizes dogs or cats for  
20 scientific, educational, or research purposes and receives  
21 public funds for those purposes.

22 "Research facility adoption policy" means an adoption  
23 policy for dogs and cats that details the specific steps that a

1 research facility takes to provide for the adoption of a dog or  
2 cat that is no longer necessary for scientific, educational, or  
3 research purposes and that, in the opinion of the dog's or  
4 cat's attending veterinarian, is suitable for adoption. The  
5 policy shall apply only to dogs or cats owned by the research  
6 facility.

7 Section 10. Research dog and cat adoption.

8 (a) A research facility, after the completion of any  
9 research involving a dog or cat, shall assess the health of the  
10 dog or cat and determine whether it is suitable for adoption.

11 (b) A research facility shall thereafter make reasonable  
12 efforts to offer for adoption a dog or cat determined to be  
13 suitable for adoption, either through private placement or  
14 through an animal adoption organization.

15 (c) A research facility that provides a dog or cat to an  
16 animal adoption organization under its research facility  
17 adoption policy is immune from any civil liability resulting  
18 from the research facility's actions as described in this  
19 Section, except for willful or wanton misconduct.

20 (d) Nothing in this Section shall create a duty upon an  
21 animal adoption organization to accept a dog or cat offered for  
22 adoption by a research facility.

23 (e) An attending veterinarian shall have the authority to  
24 assess the health of the dog or cat and determine whether the  
25 dog or cat is suitable for adoption.

1           (f) A research facility that owns dogs or cats for  
2 scientific, educational, or research purposes shall have a  
3 research facility adoption policy. The research facility  
4 adoption policy shall be made available on the research  
5 facility's website.