1   HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION

2   WHEREAS, Every county in Illinois is required to have an

3   animal control agency or a County Board to carry out the Animal

4   Control Act; and

5   WHEREAS, It is the duty of the Administrator of the Animal

6   Control Act, through sterilization, humane education, rabies

7   inoculation, stray control, impoundment, quarantine, and any

8   other means deemed necessary, to control and prevent the spread

9   of rabies and to exercise dog and cat overpopulation control;

10   and

11   WHEREAS, The County Board is required to provide necessary

12   personnel, training, equipment, supplies, and facilities and

13   operate pounds or contract for their operation as necessary to

14   effectuate the Animal Control Act; and

15   WHEREAS, Controlling dangerous dogs and centralized

16   reporting of dangerous dogs and bite case data are important

17   public health and safety issues; and

18   WHEREAS, Training and certification may help ensure a

19   certain level of competency and preparation among animal

20   control wardens; and

1   WHEREAS, 8 other states have instituted training programs
2   for their animal control officers; therefore, be it

3   RESOLVED,   BY   THE   HOUSE   OF   REPRESENTATIVES   OF   THE
4   NINETY-SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, THE
5   SENATE CONCURRING HEREIN, that the General Assembly shall
6   create a committee to explore dangerous dogs, bite statistics
7   and reporting, and animal control training; and be it further

8   RESOLVED, That the committee shall hold a minimum of 3
9   hearings   throughout   the   State,   including   one   in   Southern
10 Illinois, and shall report its findings to the General Assembly
11 on or before October 1, 2011, and, after the committee reports
12 its findings, it is dissolved; and be it further

13   RESOLVED,   That   the   Department   of   Agriculture   shall
14 provided administrative and other support to the committee; and
15 be it further

16   RESOLVED, That the committee shall be co-chaired by a
17 Representative appointed by the Speaker of the House of
18 Representatives and a Representative appointed by the Minority
19 Leader of the House of Representatives and a Senator appointed
20 by the President of the Senate and a Senator appointed by the
21 Minority Leader of the Senate; and be it further

1   RESOLVED, That the committee shall consist of 20 members in
2   addition to the co-chairpersons as follows: one pet owner
3   appointed by the Governor; one veterinarian appointed by the
4   Illinois State Veterinary Medical Association; one member
5   appointed by the Illinois Farm Bureau; one employee of the
6   Illinois Department of Agriculture appointed by the Director;
7   one attorney appointed by the Illinois State Bar Association's
8   Animal Law Section; one Illinois resident appointed by the Cat
9   Fanciers Association; one person appointed by the Chicago
10 Veterinary Medical Association; one humane society employee
11 appointed by the Illinois Federation of Humane Societies; one
12 animal control warden appointed by the Illinois Animal Control
13 Association; one Illinois resident appointed by Best Friends
14 Animal Society; one veterinarian appointed by Cook County
15 Animal Control; one Assistant State's Attorney appointed by the
16 Cook County State's Attorney's Office; one dog trainer
17 appointed by PAWS Chicago; one Assistant State's Attorney
18 appointed by the Madison County State's Attorney's Office; one
19 member appointed by Safe Humane Chicago; one feral cat
20 caretaker appointed by Alley Cat Allies; one animal behaviorist
21 appointed by the University of Illinois College of Veterinary
22 Medicine; one breeder appointed by the Illinois Federation of
23 Dog Clubs and Owners; one attorney appointed by the Chicago Bar
24 Animal Law Committee; and one veterinarian appointed by the
25 Animal Protective League of Springfield; and be it further

1   RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
2 delivered to the Senate President and the Speaker of the House
3 of Representatives.