

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: No fiscal impact

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<b>Action:</b>	Do Pass as Amended and Be Printed Engrossed
<b>Vote:</b>	8 - 0 - 0
<b>Yeas:</b>	Cameron, Clem, Conger, Matthews, Sheehan, Smith J., Holvey, Whisnant
<b>Nays:</b>	0
<b>Exc.:</b>	0
<b>Prepared By:</b>	Jan Nordlund, Administrator
<b>Meeting Dates:</b>	4/7, 4/14, 4/19, 4/20

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**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:** Establishes process for veterinary facilities to remove a domestic animal if the owner does not retake possession. Allows unclaimed animal to be placed with a rescue group or shelter or be adopted. Allows animal to be euthanized if placement and adoption are not reasonable options. Modifies lien law for domestic animals.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- Four-day waiting period before removal
- Five-day waiting period before foreclosing on lien
- Current process using lien law
- Whether animal's health or client relationship would influence removal decision

**EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:** Deletes kennels from authority to use removal process. Deletes provision allowing animal to be sold. Provides that humane euthanasia be used as last option. Modifies lien law for domestic animals, changing from fifteen to five the number of days that animal must be retained before foreclosure.

**BACKGROUND:** Under current law, a lien is automatically attached to a dog or cat when the owner takes it to a veterinary facility. If the veterinarian claims a lien for any unpaid costs, the practice must retain the animal for at least 15 days after the lien attaches and before the foreclosure process can begin. The foreclosure ends with the sale of the animal. House Bill 3111-A gives veterinary facilities new options in addition to modifying the lien law.