
SENATE BILL 5212

State of Washington

66th Legislature

2019 Regular Session

By Senators Palumbo, Wilson, L., Rolfes, Mullet, Wilson, C., Hunt,
and Kuderer

1 AN ACT Relating to adoption of dogs and cats used for science or
2 research purposes; and adding a new section to chapter 16.52 RCW.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 16.52
5 RCW to read as follows:

6 (1) A higher education research facility that receives public
7 money, including tax-exempt status, or a facility that provides
8 research in collaboration with a higher education facility that uses
9 dogs or cats for scientific or research purposes and plans on
10 euthanizing a dog or cat used for scientific or research purposes,
11 must first offer a dog or cat for adoption. Upon conclusion of the
12 dog's or cat's use for scientific or research purposes, the dog or
13 cat must first be deemed suitable for adoption by the facility's
14 attending veterinarian or other animal health professional pursuant
15 to guidelines of the American veterinary medical association. Once
16 the dog or cat has been deemed suitable for adoption, the dog or cat
17 may be transferred to a licensed animal rescue organization or
18 adopted out through the facility's established adoption program. A
19 facility that offers dogs or cats to a licensed animal rescue
20 organization under this section may enter into an agreement to
21 facilitate adoptions.

1 (2) For the purposes of this section, "licensed animal rescue
2 organization" means any nonprofit organization incorporated for the
3 purpose of rescuing animals in need and finding permanent adoptive
4 homes for the animals.

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