

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION establishing the Shelter Oversight and Pet  
2 Overpopulation Task Force.

3 WHEREAS, Kentucky has 90 counties with animal shelters; and

4 WHEREAS, each of the 120 counties of the Commonwealth is required by statute  
5 to have an animal control officer; and

6 WHEREAS, since 2004, Kentucky has had minimum statutory standards for county  
7 animal shelters and requires each county to have a shelter or contract with an organization  
8 to provide shelter services; and

9 WHEREAS, a recent study conducted by the University of Kentucky Diagnostic  
10 Laboratory on all county animal shelters found approximately 49 percent of those shelters  
11 to be out of compliance with state law governing shelters; and

12 WHEREAS, a lack of access to and relatively high cost of spay and neuter surgery  
13 inhibits control over pet overpopulation, and state and local governments are fiscally  
14 constrained from using taxpayer funds for spay and neuter programs; and

15 NOW, THEREFORE,

16 ***Be it resolved by the Senate of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of***  
17 ***Kentucky, the House of Representatives concurring therein:***

18 ➔Section 1. The Shelter Oversight and Pet Overpopulation Task Force is hereby  
19 created. The task force shall:

20 (1) Review and develop findings and recommendations to address problems faced  
21 by county shelters, including adequacy of facilities, funding, and pet  
22 overpopulation in the Commonwealth;

23 (2) Formulate standards and processes for improved regulation of shelters; and

24 (3) Identify ways to expand funding for shelters and for programs to offer spay  
25 and neuter clinics across the Commonwealth.

26 ➔Section 2. The task force shall have seven members, with the final membership  
27 subject to the approval of the Legislative Research Commission. The membership shall

1 be as follows:

- 2 (1) Two members of the Senate, one of whom shall serve as task force co-chair,  
3 to be appointed by the President of the Senate;
- 4 (2) Two members of the House of Representatives, one of whom shall serve as  
5 task force co-chair, to be appointed by the Speaker of the House;
- 6 (3) The Kentucky State Veterinarian;
- 7 (4) The chair of the Animal Control Advisory Board; and
- 8 (5) One member representing the Kentucky Association of Counties.

9 ➔Section 3. The task force shall meet in Frankfort at least three times during the  
10 2017 Interim. The task force shall make a report of its activity, including any findings and  
11 recommendations agreed upon by the task force, to the Legislative Research Commission  
12 and to the Interim Joint Committee on Agriculture by December 1, 2017.

13 ➔Section 4. Provisions of this concurrent resolution notwithstanding, the  
14 Legislative Research Commission shall have the authority to alternatively assign the  
15 issues identified herein to an interim joint committee or subcommittee thereof and to  
16 designate a study completion date.