

1 AN ACT relating to animal control officers.

2 *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:*

3 ➔SECTION 1. A NEW SECTION OF KRS 258.095 TO 258.500 IS CREATED
4 TO READ AS FOLLOWS:

5 *(1) The board shall provide comprehensive evidence-informed training for animal*
6 *control officers on child abuse and neglect recognition and reporting that*
7 *encompasses child physical, sexual, and emotional abuse and neglect.*

8 *(2) The training may be provided in person or by utilizing currently available*
9 *technology and shall cover, at a minimum, current information regarding the*
10 *connection between animal abuse as a predictor crime with a statistically*
11 *significant correlation to active or future instances of interpersonal violence such*
12 *as child abuse, domestic violence, elder abuse, and sexual assault.*

13 *(3) Except as provided in subsection (7) of this section:*

14 *(a) All animal control officers shall complete the training by January 31, 2027;*
15 *and*

16 *(b) Animal control officers employed, appointed, or contracted with on or after*
17 *January 31, 2027, shall complete the training within one hundred twenty*
18 *(120) days of being employed, appointed, or contracted.*

19 *(4) This section shall not expand, modify, or create additional reporting obligations*
20 *for an animal control officer beyond those required under KRS 209.030 or*
21 *620.030 or other applicable law.*

22 *(5) (a) An animal control officer who, in the course of performing official duties,*
23 *has reasonable cause to believe that a child or vulnerable adult is abused,*
24 *neglected, or exploited shall satisfy any obligation arising under this section*
25 *by making a report in accordance with KRS 209.030 or 620.030 or other*
26 *applicable law.*

27 *(b) This section shall not require an animal control officer to conduct an*

1 independent investigation or assessment beyond the officer's statutory
2 authority relating to animal control.

3 (6) An animal control officer and the employing unit of local government shall not
4 be subject to civil liability for any good-faith act or omission related to the
5 recognition or reporting of suspected abuse or neglect pursuant to this section.

6 (7) A unit of local government that employs, appoints, or contracts with an animal
7 control officer may opt out of the training under this section by providing written
8 notice to the board by December 31, 2026. A unit of local government that opts
9 out under this subsection may subsequently opt in by providing written notice to
10 the board.

11 ➔Section 2. This Act may be cited as Kyan's Law.