

## **Please VOTE NO on HB 21-1160**

### Care of Dogs And Cats In Pet Animal Facilities

Sponsors: Representatives Duran/Soper, Senators Ginal/Coram

MaxFund Animal Adoption Center and over 70 other organizations are asking for your NO VOTE on HB 21-1160. We believe that protecting the lives of Colorado's homeless, **treatable** pets is important. **This bill does not accomplish that.**

In this bill: It is NOT clear how the definition of "Healthy" animals would be standardized or defined:

- Is a blind dog or cat with a **treatable** medical condition "healthy" enough to be saved? THIS BILL IS UNCLEAR AND DOES NOT ANSWER THESE TYPES OF QUESTIONS.

In this bill: There is NOT a clear definition of what constitutes a "safe" animal:

- Would a cat scratch that breaks the skin mean that the cat cannot be saved? Are animals with the *potential* to be safe allowed to receive treatment? THIS BILL IS UNCLEAR AND DOES NOT ANSWER THESE TYPES OF QUESTIONS.

In this bill: There is NO indication of who will have the authority to give direction on these vague definitions.

Additional problems with this bill:

- Section 2 of this bill contradicts itself, making it impossible to understand the true intent of the bill, or its full potential impact on Colorado shelters.
- Puts PACFA licensed shelters, rescues and their staff in potential jeopardy of revocation or legal ramifications if unclear new rules are not followed.
- Notes attached to this bill indicate the State anticipates additional revenue from fines for violations of this legislation, putting underfunded and/or rural shelters at increased risk of added financial strain and/or closure.
- Stakeholders such as MaxFund Animal Adoption Center and **over 70 other organizations** opposing this bill were NOT consulted in the process of introducing this bill.
- The short title of Section 2 of this bill is "Colorado Socially Conscious Sheltering Act". Organizations who support this bill have publicly indicated their goal through legislation is to make Colorado a "Socially Conscious Sheltering state", signifying a potential threat to the No Kill movement and other sheltering models in Colorado.

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