



GEORGIA CANINE COALITION, INC.  
END OF SESSION REVIEW  
Second Term 2017-2018

Below is the report of the end of the Second Term of the Two-Year Session (2017-2108). If a bill did not pass this session, it is dead and would have to be reintroduced in the 2018-2019 First Term Session.

SENATE BILLS

SB 214

A BILL to be entitled an Act to amend Article 1 of Chapter 11 of Title 4 of the O.C.G.A., relating to general provisions relative to animal protection, so as to regulate the retail sale of dogs and cats in this state; to provide for definitions; to provide that dogs and cats transported into this state for sale or offered for sale in this state shall be protected against certain diseases and parasites; to provide for examinations and certifications by veterinarians; to provide for certain rights of purchasers of dogs and cats; to provide for notices and representations to purchasers; to provide for the quarantine of dogs and cats suspected of carrying disease; to provide for cumulative effect of article; to require regulatory consistency; to provide for a short title; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes. Senator Williams of the 27<sup>th</sup> main sponsor. HSUS supported bill. Bill did not move out of committee. We have concerns over parts of this bill. Dead.

SB 257

A BILL to be entitled an Act to amend Chapter 1 of Title 4 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to general provisions relative to animals, so as to provide for consultation with a veterinarian employed or approved by the Department of Agriculture prior to the filing of criminal charges for cruelty to animals in certain instances; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes. Senator Bill Heath was the Sponsor. This bill got caught up in the legislative process and its language was added to the Veterinary Practice Act update. **Passed as attached to Veterinary Practice Act.**

SB 418

A BILL to be entitled an Act to amend Chapter 1 of Title 10 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to selling and other trade practices, so as to prohibit county, municipal, and consolidated governments from banning the sales of goods, products, or items regulated by the United States Department of Agriculture, the United States Food and Drug Administration, or the Georgia Department of Agriculture, which are sold at properly zoned retail establishments; to provide for definitions; to provide for related matters; to provide for an effective date; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes. Dead.

SR 467

A RESOLUTION creating the Senate Study Committee on Service Animals for Physically or Mentally Impaired Persons; and for other purposes. **Passed.**

SR 976

A RESOLUTION commending the benefits and contributions of purebred dogs to the State of Georgia and recognizing May, 1, 2018, as Georgia Purebred Dog Day at the state capitol; and for other purposes. This is our bill. Senator Ellis Black was the Sponsor. **This resolution passed.**

#### HOUSE BILLS

HB 144

A BILL to be entitled an Act to amend Article 1 of Chapter 11 of Title 4 of the O.C.G.A., relating to general provisions relative to animal protection, so as to regulate the retail sale of dogs and cats in this state; to provide for definitions; to provide that dogs and cats transported into this state for sale or offered for sale in this state shall be protected against certain diseases and parasites; to provide for examinations and certifications by veterinarians; to provide for certain rights of purchasers of dogs and cats; to provide for notices and representations to purchasers; to provide for the quarantine of dogs and cats suspected of carrying disease; to restrict certain local regulation; to require regulatory consistency; to provide for a short title; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes. Representative Ehrhart is the main sponsor. We supported this bill as we felt it was good for the animals, passed committee but didn't move out of Rules Committee. Dead.

HB 40

A BILL to be entitled an Act to amend Article 4 of Chapter 12 of Title 24 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to medical and other confidential information, so as to provide an exception for confidentiality of certain medical information of animals within a veterinarian's care; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes. This bill was added to the Georgia Veterinary Practice Act. **Passed.**

HB 253

A BILL to be entitled an Act to amend Code Section 40-2-86 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to special license plates promoting certain beneficial projects and supporting certain worthy agencies, funds, or nonprofit corporations, so as to increase the proportion of moneys derived from the sale of specialty license plates promoting the dog and cat reproductive sterilization support program which are to be dedicated to such program; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes. We support this bill as the program is run by the Department of Agriculture. **Passed as attached to HB 695, Georgia Forestry Foundation plate.**

HB 288

A BILL to be entitled an Act to amend Title 30 of the O.C.G.A., relating to handicapped persons, so as to provide for additional rights and responsibilities of persons with service animals; to provide for accommodation of those requiring service animals; to authorize creation and issuance of information cards under the auspices of the Department of Human

Services; to provide for criminal offenses and penalties relating to fraudulent representation relating to disability; to amend Part 1 of Article 4 of Chapter 11 of Title 16 of the O.C.G.A., relating to criminal offenses relative to dangerous instrumentalities and practices generally, so as to provide for criminal offenses and penalties related to the harassing, injuring, or killing of service animals; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes. Representative Tom Kirby is the main sponsor. We support the idea but the bill has some problems. Dead.

HB 419

A BILL to be entitled an Act to amend Chapter 60 of Title 36 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to general provisions regarding local government provisions applicable to counties and municipal corporations, so as to enable the governing authority of certain counties to further regulate the use or ignition of consumer fireworks; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes. **Passed as amended in the Senate.**

HB 473

A BILL to be entitled an Act to amend Title 30 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to handicapped persons, so as to provide for additional rights and responsibilities of persons with service animals; to provide for accommodation of those requiring service animals; to authorize creation and issuance of information cards under the auspices of the Department of Human Services; to provide for criminal offenses and penalties relating to fraudulent representation relating to disability; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes. Dead

HB 956

A BILL to be entitled an Act to amend Chapter 50 of Title 43 of the O.C.G.A., relating to veterinarians and veterinary technicians, so as to change certain provisions relating to definitions relative to such chapter; to amend Article 11 of Chapter 3 of Title 38 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to military, emergency management, and veterans affairs generally, so as to revise a cross-reference; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes. **Passed.**