

House Bill 136

By: Representatives Douglas of the 78<sup>th</sup>, Smith of the 70<sup>th</sup>, Cooper of the 43<sup>rd</sup>, Henson of the 86<sup>th</sup>, Robichaux of the 48<sup>th</sup>, and others

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

1 To amend Article 1 of Chapter 11 of Title 4 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated,  
2 relating to general provisions regarding animal protection, so as to provide for photographic  
3 notification and breed of impounded animals on an animal shelter's website; to provide for  
4 related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

6 style="text-align:center">**SECTION 1.**

7 Article 1 of Chapter 11 of Title 4 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to  
8 general provisions regarding animal protection, is amended by revising subsection (a) of  
9 Code Section 4-11-9.4, relating to notification of owner and custody of animal, as follows:

10 "(a)(1) It shall be the duty of any person impounding an animal under this article to  
11 notify the owner of such animal immediately upon impoundment. Such notice shall state  
12 the name and business address of the person impounding the animal, the name and  
13 address of the state or local government agency having custody of the animal, a  
14 description of the animal, the reason why the animal was impounded, and a statement of  
15 the time limits for the owner to respond and request a hearing as provided in Code  
16 Section 4-11-9.5. The notice shall be provided by personal service or by registered mail,  
17 certified mail, or statutory overnight delivery sent to the last known address of the owner.  
18 Service of the notice which complies with subsection (b) of Code Section 9-11-5 shall in  
19 all cases be sufficient. If the owner of such animal is unknown or cannot be found,  
20 service of the notice on the owner shall be made by posting the notice in a conspicuous  
21 place at the location where the animal was impounded and by publishing a notice once  
22 in a newspaper of general circulation in the county where the animal was impounded.

23 (2) It shall be the duty of any animal shelter impounding an animal under this article to  
24 immediately post a photograph of the animal, along with the animal's breed, on the  
25 animal shelter's website."

26

**SECTION 2.**

27 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.