

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 1st Session of the 58th Legislature (2021)

3 SENATE BILL 731

By: Murdock

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5  
6 AS INTRODUCED

7 An Act relating to strays; amending 4 O.S. 2011,  
8 Section 85.6, which relates to the sale of unclaimed  
9 animals; modifying publication options; and providing  
10 an effective date.

11 BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

12 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 4 O.S. 2011, Section 85.6, is  
13 amended to read as follows:

14 Section 85.6. A. If a peace officer is unable to determine the  
15 owner or probable owner of any strayed animal from brand records and  
16 other reports of lost, strayed and stolen livestock, the sheriff  
17 shall cause to be published on a newspaper's website, government  
18 website or in a newspaper having general circulation in the county  
19 in which the strayed animal has been taken up, a description of the  
20 animal which shall contain sex, age and brand or brands but shall  
21 not contain color, or marks or other descriptive information. The  
22 notice shall be published for two (2) consecutive weekly issues. If  
23 after such publication the sheriff is still unable to determine the  
24 owner, the animal shall be sold by the sheriff, at either the

1 nearest approved and licensed slaughter facility or the nearest  
2 approved and licensed or federally inspected livestock auction  
3 market from where taken up, inside the State of Oklahoma.

4 B. The approved selling firm shall forward by mail to the  
5 sheriff a check for the proceeds and other sales information,  
6 listing a description, sex, weight, selling price per pound and  
7 total sales price less normal and customary marketing fees.

8 C. The sheriff shall pay to the taker-up of an unclaimed stray  
9 animal the actual cost for keeping it, together with the actual  
10 amount of any damages suffered by the taker-up as a result of the  
11 strayed animal being upon the premises.

12 D. All remaining money, if any, shall be deposited with the  
13 county treasurer to be held by the treasurer in a special fund from  
14 which payment may be made to a claimant who has been determined by  
15 the district court to be the owner of the stray animal. If not  
16 expended pursuant to court order within one (1) year the funds so  
17 deposited shall be credited to the County General Fund.

18 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2021.

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