

1 **SENATE FLOOR VERSION**

2 February 22, 2021

3 SENATE BILL NO. 731

By: Murdock

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

18 COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND WILDLIFE
19 February 22, 2021 - DO PASS
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