



State of Tennessee

PUBLIC CHAPTER NO. 335

SENATE BILL NO. 195

By Lundberg, Campbell, Yarbro

Substituted for: House Bill No. 472

By Crawford, Jernigan, Clemmons, Lynn, Beck, Mitchell, Whitson, McCalmon, Hardaway, Travis, Hawk, Cepicky, Ragan

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 39 and Title 44, relative to shelter for dogs.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 39-14-202(a), is amended by deleting subdivision (2) and substituting:

(2)(A) Fails unreasonably to provide necessary food, water, or care for an animal in the person's custody; or

(B)(i) Fails unreasonably to provide access to necessary shelter for an animal other than a dog in the person's custody; or

(ii)(a) Unless exempted under subdivision (a)(2)(B)(ii)(b), fails unreasonably to provide access to shelter in a structure that meets the following requirements for a dog in the person's custody that resides primarily outdoors:

(1) The structure is constructed of sound and substantial material, is sufficient to protect the dog from inclement weather, and is of a size appropriate to allow the dog to maintain normal body temperature;

(2) The structure must have a roof and be enclosed on all sides with an entrance of adequate size for the dog to enter, and have dimensions that allow the dog, while in the shelter, to stand erect, sit, turn around, and lie down in a normal position;

(3) The structure provides a solid surface, resting platform, pad, floormat, or similar device that is large enough for the dog to lie on in a normal manner and that can be maintained in a sanitary manner;

(4) From March through October, the structure is properly shaded, and from November through February, when necessary to protect the dog from cold and promote the retention of body heat, the shelter is fitted with a sufficient quantity of bedding material; and

(5) The structure or structures must be of a sufficient size or number to provide shelter to each dog present at the same time;

(b) The requirements in subdivision (a)(2)(B)(ii)(a) do not apply when a dog is actively engaged in lawful hunting; police, military, or patrol work; detection work; search-and-rescue; herding or livestock guarding; trials and other lawful competitions; service and assistance

work; other working, sporting, and competitive functions; or while actively training for these purposes and functions;

SECTION 2. This act takes effect July 1, 2023, the public welfare requiring it.

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PASSED: April 20, 2023


RANDY McNALLY
SPEAKER OF THE SENATE


CAMERON SEXTON, SPEAKER
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APPROVED this 5th day of May 2023


BILL LEE, GOVERNOR