

By: Minjarez

H. B. No. 2490

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT

2 relating to the adoption of cats and dogs previously used for
3 research.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

5 SECTION 1. Title 10, Health and Safety Code, is amended by
6 adding Chapter 830 to read as follows:

CHAPTER 830. ADOPTION OF RETIRED RESEARCH ANIMALS

Sec. 830.001. DEFINITIONS. In this chapter:

1 science, or testing purposes and no longer needs for those
2 purposes.

3 Sec. 830.002. APPLICABILITY. This chapter applies only to
4 a retired research animal that does not have a substantial medical
5 condition that prevents the animal from successfully integrating
6 into an adoptive home.

7 Sec. 830.003. ADOPTION OF RETIRED ANIMALS. (a) A research
8 facility, or its authorized employee or an authorized student of an
9 institution of higher education associated with the facility, shall
10 offer on its retirement a retired animal for adoption:

11 (1) through an animal rescue organization or animal
12 shelter; or

13 (2) by an individual through an arrangement between
14 the facility and individual.

15 (b) Before offering any retired animal to an animal rescue
16 organization or animal shelter, a research facility must enter into
17 a written agreement with the organization or shelter addressing the
18 transfer of the facility's retired animals to the organization or
19 shelter.

20 Sec. 830.004. IMMUNITY FROM CIVIL LIABILITY. A research
21 facility that in good faith and in compliance with this chapter
22 provides a research animal to an animal rescue organization, animal
23 shelter, or individual is immune from civil liability with respect
24 to a claim that is based on:

25 (1) the facility's transfer of a retired animal to the
26 organization, shelter, or individual under this chapter; or

27 (2) the adoption of a retired animal by an individual

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1 through the organization or shelter.

2 Sec. 830.005. RULES. The executive commissioner may adopt
3 rules necessary to implement this chapter.

4 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2017.