

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 2, 2025

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2025–26 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 631

Introduced by Assembly Member Lee

February 13, 2025

An act to add Section 32004 to the Food and Agricultural Code, relating to animals.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 631, as amended, Lee. Animals: animal shelters: transparency.

Existing law requires all public and private animal shelters to keep accurate records on each animal taken up, medically treated, or impounded, as specified.

This bill would require animal shelters, as defined, to post on their internet websites, or third-party internet websites, the number of animals taken in, the source of intake, and the outcomes for all animals, as specified. The bill would require this information to be made publicly accessible, *be* updated at least once per ~~month~~, *quarter*, and remain publicly accessible for at least 5 years.

To the extent that this bill would impose a new program or higher level of service on public animal control agencies or shelters, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement.

This bill would provide that, if the Commission on State Mandates determines that the bill contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement for those costs shall be made pursuant to the statutory provisions noted above.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.
State-mandated local program: yes.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 32004 is added to the Food and
2 Agricultural Code, immediately following Section 32003, to read:
3 32004. (a) For purposes of this section, “animal shelter” has
4 the same meaning as ~~specified~~ *defined* in Section 30503.5.
5 (b) An animal shelter shall post on its internet website, or a
6 third-party internet website that is conspicuously linked on its
7 internet website, all of the following information:
8 (1) The number of animals taken in with separate categories for
9 dogs, cats, and other animals.
10 (2) The source of intake separated by category, including, but
11 not limited to, stray animals, surrendered by owner, or transferred
12 from another animal shelter.
13 (3) The outcomes for all animals separated by category,
14 including, but not limited to, returned to owner, adopted,
15 transferred to another organization, euthanized, died in care, or
16 dead upon arrival.
17 (c) The information required to be posted pursuant to subdivision
18 (b) shall be made publicly accessible, be updated on the animal
19 shelter’s internet website or third-party internet website at least
20 once per ~~month~~, *quarter*, and remain publicly accessible for at
21 least five years.
22 (d) Animal shelters with local contracts for animal care are
23 encouraged to make the ~~data~~ *information* available in a
24 downloadable spreadsheet format that may include, but is not
25 limited to, a comma-separated values file or a tab-separated values
26 file and that is compatible with a spreadsheet software application
27 that is widely used at the time of the posting.
28 SEC. 2. If the Commission on State Mandates determines that
29 this act contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement to
30 local agencies and school districts for those costs shall be made
31 pursuant to Part 7 (commencing with Section 17500) of Division
32 4 of Title 2 of the Government Code.

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