

Senate Agriculture Committee

From: Stephanie Worley <steph.a.worley@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, October 27, 2016 9:11 AM
To: Senate Agriculture Committee
Subject: PCHTSC

Dear Sirs and Madams:

South Carolina is in need of stronger animal abuse laws. Animal abuse leads to other criminal behaviors, including homicide. So, by enacting stronger laws and tougher penalties for animal abuse, further criminal activity may be curbed.

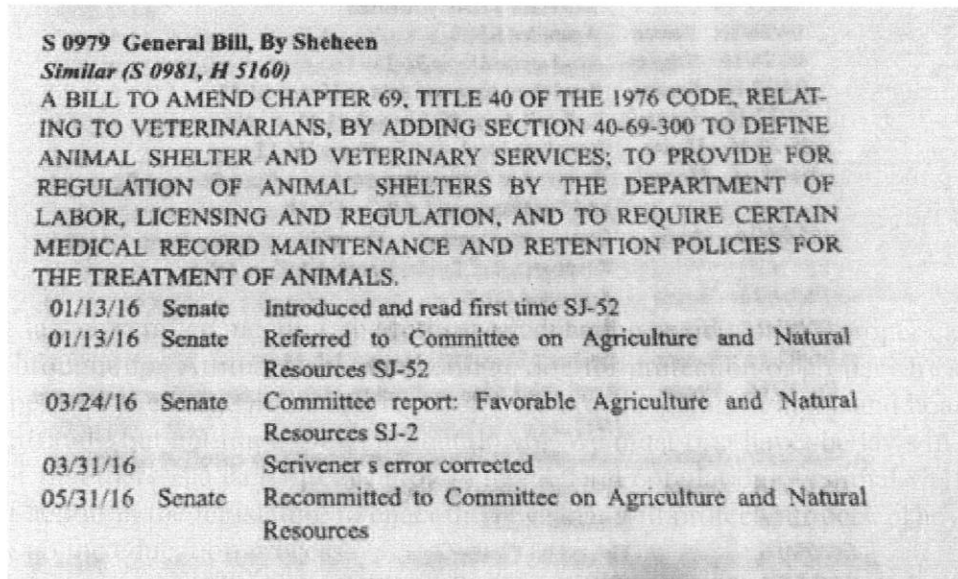
Overpopulation of pets is also a problem. I would like to see spay/neuter laws and penalties be enacted requiring all pet animals be altered unless the owner has a valid breeder license or a Veterinarian's letter indicating a major medical waiver. Doing so would cut down on the pets that end up in overcrowded shelters and end up having to be put to sleep.

Thank you,
Stephanie Worley
109 Pickle Buddy Court
Lyman, SC

In the last committee meeting, the futility of educating society on the proper care of companion animals was brought up. Attitudes about tethering a dog for protection of property by so many people are going to be hard to change in the south. Back yard breeders,,dog fighters, and hoarding rescues are going to be difficult, but not impossible, to shut down. We must first have the laws in place.

I agree that there is a lack of education in the general population of animal welfare, but there is also a lack of action in the legislature to enact the laws that will protect our pets. They have to be in place to back up the education process.

For the past 4 years, the Animal Abuse Registry bill has languished and died without even being voted on by the legislature. It would have helped in the elimination of such abuse by some of the above mentioned animal abusers. Repeat offenders were also mentioned in the last committee meeting. To eliminate repeat offenders, we need this registry!



S 0979 General Bill, By Sheheen
Similar (S 0981, H 5160)

A BILL TO AMEND CHAPTER 69, TITLE 40 OF THE 1976 CODE, RELATING TO VETERINARIANS, BY ADDING SECTION 40-69-300 TO DEFINE ANIMAL SHELTER AND VETERINARY SERVICES; TO PROVIDE FOR REGULATION OF ANIMAL SHELTERS BY THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR, LICENSING AND REGULATION, AND TO REQUIRE CERTAIN MEDICAL RECORD MAINTENANCE AND RETENTION POLICIES FOR THE TREATMENT OF ANIMALS.

01/13/16	Senate	Introduced and read first time SJ-52
01/13/16	Senate	Referred to Committee on Agriculture and Natural Resources SJ-52
03/24/16	Senate	Committee report: Favorable Agriculture and Natural Resources SJ-2
03/31/16		Scrivener s error corrected
05/31/16	Senate	Recommitted to Committee on Agriculture and Natural Resources

Then there is the shelter regulation bill that Senator Sheheen introduced (above) The horror in Bennettsville, SC, would not have occurred if his bill had been passed and enforced. Why did it not even get to a vote? It was even “favorable” on 3/24/16. Now the process has to start all over again.

What is the reason these 2 animal welfare bills have expired? Our lawmakers have not made them a priority. Please put these 2 bills at the top of the list for 2017/2018. As Nelson Mandella said “it always seems impossible until it's done” It can be done.

Dum Spiro Spero
for the animals of South Carolina

Marlene Smith

Senate Agriculture Committee

From: Lynn <lcfayard@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, November 02, 2016 8:55 AM
To: Senate Agriculture Committee
Subject: PTHCSC

On October 16, this happened in Lexington, SC. Please make charges and punishment for this kind of crime and cruelty as serious as the horrible act itself. Please.

Lynn Fayard
Seneca, SC
404-915-8045



Police in South Carolina are asking for the public's help after a dog was kicked repeatedly and thrown down a set of stairs.



GRAPHIC: Video shows dog kicked, thrown down stairs

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