
From: PETA <newsmanager@peta.org> on behalf of Rhonda Redmond
<newsmanager@peta.org>
Sent: Wednesday, May 11, 2016 8:40 PM
To: Haley, Nikki
Subject: Please Help Put an End to Animal Homelessness in 2015

May 11, 2016

Governor Nikki Haley
Office of the Governor
1205 Pendleton Street
Columbia, SC 29201

Dear Governor Haley,

This year, an estimated 8 million dogs and cats will end up in animal shelters across the nation, and roughly half of the unwanted dogs and cats who pour into cash-strapped, overwhelmed sheltering facilities will have to be euthanized. Taxpayers fund the capture, housing, and eventual placement or euthanasia of stray and unwanted animals, many of whom lose their lives because there are not enough good homes for them.

The statistics are staggering. In the U.S. alone, animal shelters must spend an estimated \$2 billion in taxpayer money to take in, house, euthanize, and dispose of unwanted animals. The estimated average cost of intake, care, and disposition per sheltered animal is \$100.

Unsterilized dogs are also more likely to attack. According to a report from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, unsterilized dogs are 2.6 times likelier to bite than dogs who have been sterilized .

There is a practical, fiscally sensible solution to this epidemic, and it lies in prevention. Requiring that dogs and cats be sterilized unless their owners purchase an annual breeding permit--the cost of which would fund low-cost spay-and-neuter services--will save animals'

lives and taxpayer dollars. The only way to create 'no-kill'

communities is to work toward a 'no-birth' nation through legislative measures that mandate spaying and neutering.

Please address animal homelessness and its inherent drain on the budget by supporting mandatory spay-and-neuter laws in your state.

Sincerely,

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