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HOUSE BILL NO. 1565

AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE

(Proposed by the House Committee on Agriculture, Chesapeake and Natural Resources
on January 28, 2015)

(Patron Prior to Substitute—Delegate Orrock)

A *BILL to amend and reenact § 3.2-6562 of the Code of Virginia, relating to capturing of companion animals; authority of animal control officers.*

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That § 3.2-6562 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:

§ 3.2-6562. Capturing, confining, and euthanizing companion animals by animal control officers; approval of drugs used.

It shall be the duty of the animal control officer or any other officer to capture and confine any companion animal of unknown ownership found running at large on which the license fee has not been paid. *The animal control officer may capture and confine any companion animal not subject to licensure in response to a complaint by a citizen that the companion animal is on the citizen's property without the permission of the citizen.* Following the expiration of the holding period prescribed in § 3.2-6546, the animal control officer or other officer may deliver such companion animal to any person in his jurisdiction who will pay the required license fee on such companion animal. Prior to disposition by euthanasia or otherwise, all the provisions of § 3.2-6546 shall have been complied with. For all companion animals not otherwise disposed of as provided for in this chapter, it shall be the duty of the animal control officer or any other officer to euthanize such companion animals. Any person, animal control officer, or other officer euthanizing a companion animal under this chapter shall cremate, bury, or sanitarily dispose of the same.

All drugs and drug administering equipment used by animal control officers or other officers to capture companion animals pursuant to this chapter shall have been approved by the State Veterinarian.

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