

Subject Pets and companion animals

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Summary

This bill would create a new state board to promote companion animal welfare and to educate and assist the public, nonprofits, and local units of government. The new Companion Animal Board would assume responsibility for regulating animal kennels, dealers, and breeders, while the Board of Animal Health would retain jurisdiction over livestock and other farm animals.

The bill would transfer statutory duties and powers pertaining to kennels, dealers, and breeders from the Board of Animal Health, grant rulemaking authority to the Companion Animal Board, and require consultation and cooperation between the Companion Animal Board and the Board of Animal Health. The bill also prescribes certain occupations and organizations that must be represented on the 13-member Companion Animal Board and requires the board to meet at least quarterly.