

March 11, 1999

S 330. SPAY/NEUTER PROGRAM. *TO CREATE A STATE SPAY/NEUTER FUND, TO IMPOSE A FEE OF FIFTY CENTS ON RABIES VACCINATIONS TO RAISE MONEY FOR THE SPAY/NEUTER FUND, TO ESTABLISH A STATEWIDE EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM ON THE BENEFITS OF SPAYING AND NEUTERING PETS, AND TO PROVIDE AN INCENTIVE TO COUNTIES AND CITIES TO LEVY A DIFFERENTIAL TAX ON DOGS AND CATS THAT ARE NOT SPAYED OR NEUTERED.* Adds new Art. 6A to GS Ch. 106 for purpose indicated in title. Establishes cited fund in Animal Welfare Section of Dep't of Agriculture and Consumer Services (Dep't) as nonreverting special revenue account. Fund's money must be used as follows: (1) up to 20 percent to educate public on benefits of having pets spayed and neutered (details of statewide education program set out in act); and (2) remainder to be distributed at end of each fiscal year to units of local gov't eligible to receive distribution from fund under article. To receive distribution of money from fund, unit of local gov't must apply to Dep't by April 1 of each year and also must levy animal tax on dogs and cats under GS 153A-153 and 160A-212; amount of tax on dog or cat that has not been spayed or neutered must be at least three times higher than amount of tax levied on dog or cat that has been spayed or neutered. Applicant must also offer one or more year-round programs as specified in act. Dep't must distribute money in fund to eligible applicants in proportion to number of dogs and cats that have received rabies vaccination during preceding fiscal year in that local gov't unit as compared to number of dogs and cats that have received rabies vaccination during preceding fiscal year by all of eligible applicants. Local gov't unit receiving distribution from fund may spend money only on programs that lower cost of spaying and neutering dogs and cats. Provides that fee of fifty cents is payable by owner of dog or cat when it receives rabies vaccination. Fee is credited to fund as specified in act. Applicable to rabies vaccinations administered on or after Jan. 1, 1999.

Intro. by Kinnaird.

Ref. to Finance

GS 106

July 7, 1999

S 330. SPAY/NEUTER PROGRAM. Intro. 3/11/99. Senate committee substitute makes the following changes to 1st edition. Rewrites bill to authorize Legislative Research Comm'n to study issue of establishing a spay/neuter fund, educational programs to encourage spaying and neutering of dogs and cats, and assisting local governments in providing programs to lower costs of spaying and neutering. Authorizes interim report to 2000 session and final report to 2001 session.