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2003 MAR 18 P 3:12

OFFICE WEST VIRGINIA
SECRETARY OF STATE

WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION, 2003



ENROLLED

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE
FOR

House Bill No. 2965

(By Delegates Stemple, Mezzatesta, Craig, Amores and Pethtel)



Passed March 5, 2003

In Effect from Passage

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FOR

H. B. 2965

(BY DELEGATES STEMPLE, MEZZATESTA,
CRAIG, AMORES AND PETHTEL)

[Passed March 5, 2003; in effect from passage.]

AN ACT to amend article twenty, chapter nineteen of the code of West Virginia, one thousand nine hundred thirty-one, as amended, by adding thereto a new section, designated section twenty-five, relating to authorizing the transfer of ownership of state owned dogs or horses by governmental agencies.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

That article twenty, chapter nineteen of the code of West Virginia, one thousand nine hundred thirty-one, as amended, be amended by adding thereto a new section, designated section twenty-five, to read as follows:

ARTICLE 20. DOGS AND CATS.

§19-20-25 Retirement, transfer or disposal of state owned dogs and horses.

1 (a) Whenever any dog or horse, which is the property of the
2 state, is unable to perform its duties as a service animal, the
3 responsible governmental agency may:

4 (1) Transfer ownership of the dog or horse to another
5 governmental agency within West Virginia;

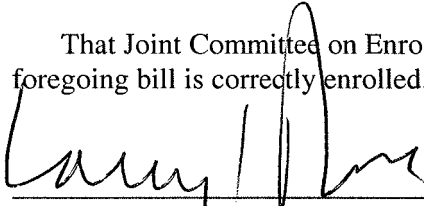
6 (2) Transfer ownership of the dog or horse to the animal's
7 handler;

8 (3) Transfer ownership of the dog or horse to a person who
9 wishes to maintain the animal; or

10 (4) Transfer the dog or horse to the care and custody of any
11 animal shelter, humane society or society for the prevention of
12 cruelty to animals, organized and operating under the laws of
13 this state, so that the dog or horse may be adopted. If the animal
14 shelter, humane society or society for the prevention of cruelty
15 to animals determines that the dog or horse is not suitable for
16 adoption, then the animal may be humanely euthanized by a
17 person licensed under the provisions of articles ten or ten-a
18 chapter thirty of this code.

19 (b) In the event ownership of a dog or horse is transferred
20 pursuant to subdivision (2), (3) or (4) of subsection (a) of this
21 section, the transfer documents must include provisions, signed
22 by the person accepting ownership of the dog or horse, which
23 hold the state harmless from any liability after the date of
24 transfer.

That Joint Committee on Enrolled Bills hereby certifies that the foregoing bill is correctly enrolled.



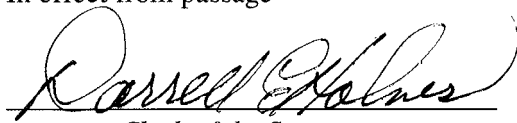
Chairman Senate Committee



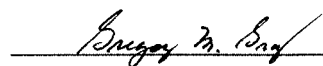
Chairman House Committee

Originating in the House.

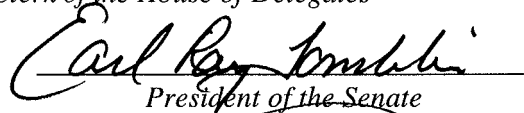
In effect from passage



Clerk of the Senate



Clerk of the House of Delegates

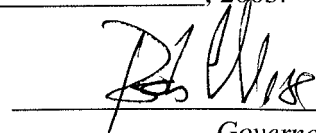


President of the Senate



Speaker of the House of Delegates

The within approved this the 18
day of March, 2003.



Governor

PRESENTED TO THE
GOVERNOR

Date 3/12/03

Time 11:08 AM