

**MINUTES**  
**Pet Care & Humane Treatment Study Committee**  
**Thursday, January 12, 2017 12:30 PM**  
**Room 110, Blatt Building**

Members Present: Senator Vincent Sheheen, Chairman  
Representative Steve Moss  
Patricia Hill, DVM, SC Assn. of Veterinarians, Past President  
Marli Drum, City of Columbia  
Kim Kelly, Humane Society US, SC Director  
Barbara Nelson, SPCA Albrecht Center, President  
Josh Rhodes, SC Assoc. of Counties, Staff Attorney  
Patty Van Sicklen, Am. Kennel Club, Legislative Analyst  
Clint Leach, SC Dept. Of Agriculture, Asst. Commissioner  
Rebecca Leach, SC Dept. of LLR, Dir. Of Bus. And Govt. Affairs

Staff Present: Senate -- Gene Hogan, Emma Hall; House -- Joannie Nickel, Rebecca Thompson

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Chairman Sheheen called the meeting to order and indicated the purpose of the meeting is to begin forming specific agenda items the committee would like to propose for legislation. He then opened the meeting to public comment in order to take one question from a member of the audience. After this, staff explained proposals submitted by members for consideration. Chairman Sheheen indicated these members will present and discuss their proposals first and then he will open the meeting to discuss any additional agenda items.

Three members of the committee submitted proposals - Kim Kelly, Barbra Nelson, and Marli Drum - all of which are listed in full on the committee webpage and included in member folders. Topics discussed included best practices/standards for all pet boarding facilities, non-ban tethering law, regulation of substandard breeders (Rep. Moss indicated two bills prefiled in the House on this topic), reducing the homeless dog population, state-wide pet registration (dogs/cats), stray hold times for shelters, and spay/neuter funding for low income counties. Although members generally agreed on several topics, they were unable to reach a consensus. Following completion of submitted proposals, Chairman Sheheen opened the meeting to discuss other topics members wished to see addressed. Issues mentioned included oversight of transportation of animals, the distribution of funds with the No More Homeless Pets program, and the definition of "fowl" in cruelty statute (to address pet birds).

Upon completion of discussion, Chairman Sheheen charged members of the committee to work with staff to draft specific language on the proposed topics for the next meeting, which staff indicated will be in several weeks' time to allow for drafting. All agenda items being completed, the meeting was adjourned.