

H.421

An act relating to animal cruelty investigation response and training

The Senate proposes to the House to amend the bill as follows:

First: In Sec. 1, 13 V.S.A. §351, in subdivision (5), by striking out the word “agency” and inserting in lieu thereof the word facility

Second: By striking out Sec. 4, effective date, in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

Sec. 4. 13 V.S.A. § 365 is amended to read:

§ 365. SHELTER OF ANIMALS

(a) Adequate shelter. All livestock and animals that are to be predominantly maintained in an outdoor area shall be provided with adequate natural shelter or adequate constructed shelter to prevent direct exposure to the elements. Pursuant to section 351b of this title, this section shall not apply to livestock and poultry husbandry practices for raising, management, and use of animals.

(b) Shelter for livestock.

(1) Livestock animals confined in enclosed areas shall be provided with adequate ventilation and shall have access to adequate exercise. Equines housed within a designated space continually, without access to a paddock, turn out, or other exercise area, shall be provided the opportunity for periodic exercise, either through free choice or through a forced work program, to

maintain normal muscle tone and mass for the age, size, and condition of the animal or in accordance with accepted agricultural or veterinary practices.

Nothing in this section shall control dairy herd housing facilities, either loose housing, comfort tie-stall, or stanchion lockups, or other housing under control of the Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets. ~~This subdivision shall not apply to any accepted housing or grazing practices for any livestock industry.~~

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Sec. 5. EFFECTIVE DATE

This act shall take effect on July 1, 2021.