

1 TO THE HONORABLE SENATE:

2 The Committee on Agriculture and Forestry to which was referred House
3 Bill No. 421 entitled “An act relating to animal cruelty investigation response
4 and training” respectfully reports that it has considered the same and
5 recommends that the Senate propose to the House that the bill be amended as
6 follows:

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

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

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

12 § 365. SHELTER OF ANIMALS

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

19 (b) Shelter for livestock.

20 (1) Livestock animals confined in enclosed areas shall be provided with
21 adequate ventilation and shall have access to adequate exercise. Equines

1 housed within a designated space continually, without access to a paddock,
2 turn out, or other exercise area, shall be provided the opportunity for periodic
3 exercise, either through free choice or through a forced work program, to
4 maintain normal muscle tone and mass for the age, size, and condition of the
5 animal or in accordance with accepted agricultural or veterinary practices.

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

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11 Sec. 5. EFFECTIVE DATE

12 This act shall take effect on July 1, 2021.

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18 (Committee vote: _____)

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Senator _____

FOR THE COMMITTEE