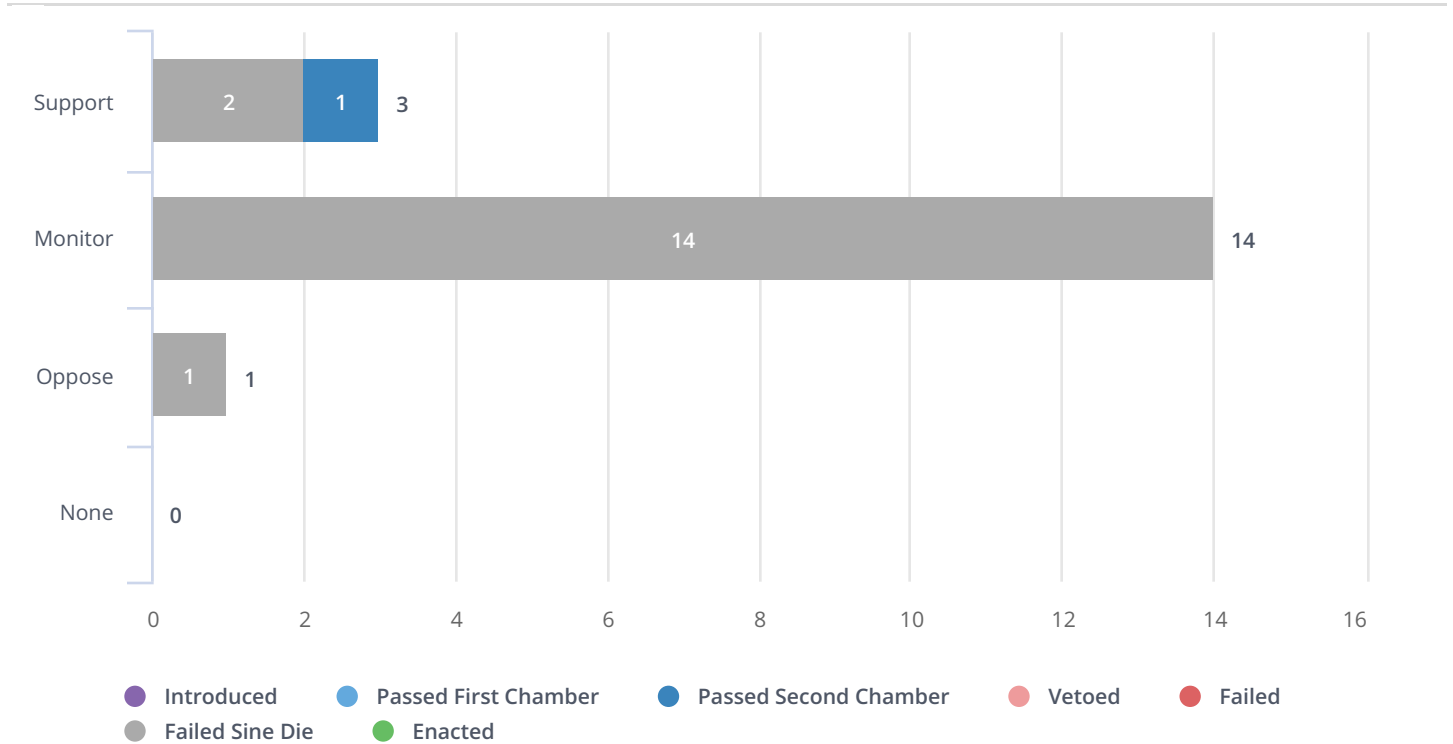


Missouri - 2023 Legislative Overview

Last Updated: May 22, 2023

Bills by Last Status and Position



Bill State: MO (18)

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status	Position	Priority
MO	HB 39	Referred Crime Prevention And Public Safety H 2023 05 12	Failed sine die	Monitor	Low
Title ANIMAL ABUSE			Bill Summary: Last edited by Jeff Plummer at Dec 6, 2022, 2:54 PM Amends Title XXXVIII (Crimes & Punishment), Chapter 578 (Miscellaneous Offenses), Section 12 (Animal Abuse - Penalties) of Revised Statutes of Missouri to increase the classification and penalty for the crime of animal abuse. Reclassifies the crime of animal abuse from a class A misdemeanor to a class E felony. Reclassifies the crime of animal abuse (if torture or mutilation was consciously inflicted while the animal was alive) from a class E felony to a class D felony.		
Description Increases the penalties for the offense of animal abuse					

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status	Position	Priority
MO	HB 40	Referred Crime Prevention And Public Safety H 2023 05 12	Failed sine die	Monitor	Medium
Title ANIMAL ABUSE			Bill Summary: Last edited by Jeff Plummer at Dec 6, 2022, 4:02 PM Amends Title 38 (Crimes & Punishment), Chapter 589 (Crime Prevention & Control Programs and Services) of MO Revised Statutes to establish the Missouri Animal Abuser Registration Act. Provides that, beginning January 1, 2024, the Missouri State Highway Patrol shall post a publicly accessible list on its website of any person convicted of an animal abuse offense. Provides that the person's name and other identifying information shall remain on the list for two years following the date of conviction, after which time the highway patrol shall remove the person's name and identifying information from the list; provided that, the person is not convicted of another animal abuse offense during such two-year period. For purposes of this section: "Animal" means a companion animal, not including livestock or wildlife. "Companion animal" means a live dog or cat.		
Description Increases the penalties for the offense of animal abuse and establishes an animal abuse registry					

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status	Position	Priority
MO	HB 88	Reported Do Pass S 2023 05 01	Failed sine die	Monitor	Low
Title ANIMAL CHIROPRACTIC			Bill Summary: Last edited by Jeff Plummer at Dec 6, 2022, 4:12 PM Amends Title XXII (Occupations & Professions), Chapter 340 (Veterinarians), Section 200 (Definitions) of MO Revised Statutes to create new provisions of law relating to animal chiropractic practitioners. Exempts animal chiropractic practitioners, engaging in the practice of animal chiropractic, from the veterinary licensure provisions of this Chapter. Provides definitions for: "Animal chiropractic" means the examination and diagnosis of an animal and treatment of the animal through vertebral subluxation complex, spinal, joint, and musculoskeletal manipulation by an animal chiropractic practitioner. "Animal chiropractic practitioner" means a licensed veterinarian certified by the AVCA or IVCA, or an individual who is licensed by the state board of chiropractic examiners to engage in the practice of chiropractic, as defined in section 331.010, who is certified by the AVCA or IVCA. "AVCA" means the American Veterinary Chiropractic Association or its successor organization. "IVCA" means the International Veterinary Chiropractic Association or its successor organization.		
Description Modifies provisions relating to animal chiropractic practitioners					

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status	Position	Priority
MO	HB 296	Referred Rules Legislative Oversight H 2023 05 08	Failed sine die	Monitor	Medium
Title DOGS			Bill Summary: Last edited by Jeff Plummer at Dec 6, 2022, 1:47 PM Amends Title VI (County, Township & Political Subdivision Government), Chapter 67 (Political Subdivisions; Miscellaneous Powers) by adding a new section to prohibit villages, towns, and cities from regulating dogs in a breed-specific manner. Adds provision that nothing in this chapter shall be construed to limit in any manner the authority of any village; town; city, including home rule city; or county to prohibit dogs from running at large or to further control or regulate dogs within its boundaries, provided that no such ordinance, order, policy, or regulation is specific to breed. Provides that the General Assembly hereby occupies and preempts the entire field of legislation regarding in any way the control or regulation of specific breeds of dogs to the complete exclusion of any order, ordinance, policy, or regulation by any village; town; city, including any home rule city; or county in this state. Any existing or future order, ordinance, policy, or regulation in this field shall be null and void. Provides that any village; town; city, including any home rule city; or county with an existing breed-specific order, ordinance, policy, or regulation in effect on or before August 28, 2023, shall have until February 28, 2025, to bring such order, ordinance, policy, or regulation into compliance with this section. After February 28, 2025, all noncompliant breed specific orders, ordinances, policies, and regulations shall be unenforceable.		
Description Prohibits villages, towns, and cities from regulating dogs in a breed-specific manner					

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status	Position	Priority
MO	HB 300	Referred Crime Prevention And Public Safety H 2023 05 12	Failed sine die	Monitor	Medium
Title REPORTING OF ABUSE OR NEGLECT			Bill Summary: Last edited by Jeff Plummer at Dec 6, 2022, 1:55 PM Amends Title XII (Public Health & Welfare), Chapters 192 (Dept. of Health & Senior Services) and 210 (Child Protection and Reformation) of the Revised Statutes of Missouri by adding new sections to require veterinarians, animal control officers, and animal humane investigators to be mandated reporters in cases of abuse and neglect of children, the elderly, and other vulnerable persons. Provides that any animal control officers or animal humane investigators shall be required to receive one hour of training within the first 60 days of employment to recognize the signs of abuse or neglect in children, the elderly, and vulnerable persons. Creates a mandated reporting requirement for certain mental health, educational, protective services, and law enforcement personnel to report cases of companion animal abuse or neglect to a hotline established by the Missouri Animal Control Association. Provides that a mandated reporter who fails to make a report shall be subject to discipline by his or her professional licensing board, as well as a fine. For purposes of this section: "Companion animal" is defined in the act as a living creature maintained by a household for companionship and not commercial purposes.		
Description Modifies provisions relating to abuse or neglect reporting, including a requirement to report companion animal abuse					

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status	Position	Priority
MO	HB 488	Hcs Voted Do Pass H 2023 04 03	Failed sine die	Monitor	Low
Title TAX CREDITS			Bill Summary: Last edited by Jeff Plummer at Dec 27, 2022, 2:04 PM Amends Title X (Taxation & Revenue), Chapter 135 (Tax Relief) of the Revised Statutes of Missouri by adding a new Section 135.790 authorizing a tax credit to offset fees from the adoption of rescue animals. Provides that for all tax years beginning on or after January 1, 2024, a taxpayer shall be allowed to claim tax credits against the taxpayer's state tax liability for qualified pet adoptions made by the taxpayer during the tax year. Provides that the amount of any tax credit claimed for a qualified pet adoption shall be equal to the qualified amount for such qualified pet adoption. Provides that a taxpayer shall not be allowed to claim more than two tax credits under this section per tax year, regardless of whether the taxpayer makes more than two qualified pet adoptions during the tax year. Provides that the cumulative amount of tax credits allowed to all taxpayers under this section shall not exceed \$500,000 dollars. For purposes of this section: "Qualified pet adoption" means any adoption by a taxpayer of an animal from an animal shelter.		
Description Authorizes a tax credit to offset fees from the adoption of rescue animals					

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status	Position	Priority
MO	HB 630	Second Read And Referred Judiciary And Civil And Criminal Jurisprudence S 2023 04 06	Failed sine die	Monitor	Low
Title ANIMAL CONFISCATION			Bill Summary: Last edited by Jeff Plummer at Jan 5, 2023, 6:09 PM Amends Title XXXVIII (Crimes & Punishment; Peace Officers & Public Defenders), Chapter 578 (Miscellaneous Offenses) of Missouri Revised Statutes by adding two new sections relating to the confiscation of certain animals along with penalty provisions. Requires that a warrant only be sought by a law enforcement officer, and is to confiscate, rather than impound animals. (Currently, any public health official or law enforcement officer may seek a warrant to inspect, care for, or impound neglected or abused animals.) Provides that a person acting under the authority of a warrant is required to appear at a disposition hearing before the court through which the warrant was issued within 10 days of the confiscation, rather than within 30 days of the filing of the request, for the purpose of granting immediate disposition of the animals. Provides that an animal cannot be sterilized before the completion of the disposition hearing unless it is necessary to save life or relieve suffering. Provides that all confiscated animals shall receive proper care and that facilities shall be liable to the animal owner for damages for any negligent acts or abuse.		
Description Modifies provisions relating to the confiscation of animals					

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status	Position	Priority
MO	HB 755	Referred Rules Legislative Oversight H 2023 05 08	Failed sine die	Monitor	Low
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Title DOGS AND CATS			Bill Summary: Last edited by Jeff Plummer at Jan 18, 2023, 7:07 PM Amends Title XVII (Agriculture & Animals), Chapter 273 (Cats-Dogs) of the Revised Statutes of Missouri by adding a new Section 273.361 to regulate the method of inducing the death of a dog or a cat in an animal control agency, animal shelter, or pound. Provides that the sole the method of inducing the death of a dog or a cat in an animal control agency, animal shelter, or pound shall be the injection of sodium pentobarbital or a derivative thereof. Provides that use of any other method to induce the death of a dog or a cat including, but not limited to, the use of nonanesthetic inhalants such as carbon monoxide or carbon dioxide gas, a decompression chamber, electrocution, gunshot, blunt force trauma, or injection of a neuromuscular blocking agent, shall be an offense under Section 273.347 (crime of canine cruelty, penalty). Provides that inducing the death of a dog or a cat shall be performed by a licensed veterinarian or physician or a lay person who is properly trained in the proper and humane use of methods of inducing the death of a dog or a cat.		
Description Establishes provisions governing methods of inducing the death of a dog or a cat					

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status	Position	Priority
MO	HB 801	Referred Rules Legislative Oversight H 2023 05 08	Failed sine die	Monitor	High
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Title VETERINARY MEDICINE			Bill Summary: Last edited by Jeff Plummer at Jan 18, 2023, 7:17 PM Amends Title XXII (Occupations & Professions), Chapter 340 (Veterinarians) of the Revised Statutes of Missouri by adding a new Section 201 to provide that the General Assembly hereby occupies and preempts the entire field of legislation concerning the practice of veterinary medicine regulated under this chapter. Provides that a political subdivision of this state is preempted from enacting, maintaining, or enforcing any order, ordinance, rule, regulation, policy, or other similar measure that prohibits, restricts, limits, regulates, controls, directs, or interferes with the practice of veterinary medicine. Provides that nothing in this section shall preclude or preempt a political subdivision of this state from exercising its lawful authority to regulate zoning or land use, to enforce a building or fire code regulation, to impose a tax or license fee for the privilege of carrying on the profession of veterinary medicine consistent with the laws regulating such taxes or license fees, to require vaccinations and licensing of animals kept within the boundaries of the political subdivision, to prohibit animal abuse, or otherwise to regulate for the general health, safety, sanitation, and welfare as long as the order, ordinance, rule, regulation, policy, or other measure does not interfere with, restrict, or limit the ability of a lawfully licensed person from engaging in any act or performing any procedure that falls within the professionally recognized scope of practice of veterinary medicine.		
Description Creates provisions relating to the practice of certain licensed professions					

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status	Position	Priority
MO	HB 949	Referred Crime Prevention And Public Safety H 2023 05 12	Failed sine die	Oppose	High
Title UNLAWFUL DOG TETHERING OR CHAINING			Bill Summary: Last edited by Jeff Plummer at Jan 26, 2023, 3:15 PM Amends Title XXXVIII (Crimes & Punishment), Chapter 578 (Miscellaneous Offenses) of Revised Statutes of Missouri by adding a new Section 578.019 to provide for the offense of unlawful dog tethering or chaining, with a penalty provision. Provides that a person commits the offense of unlawful dog tethering or chaining if the person: 1) Keeps the dog tethered or chained while unsupervised by a competent individual physically present on the property with the dog; 2) Keeps a dog tethered, chained, or otherwise restricted by a leash, rope, chain, or other similar mechanism with which the dog does not have shelter from extreme natural elements, adequate food, or access to unfrozen potable water; 3) Keeps a dog tethered or chained in an area that is unsafe or insanitary or not free from obstruction that may cause entanglement or injury; 4) Keeps the dog tethered or chained for a maximum of thirty minutes at a time, not to exceed a total of three hours in a twenty-four-hour period; or 5) Inappropriately tethers or chains the dog with a tether or chain that is not proportionate to the size of the dog, that is less than fifteen feet in length, that does not have a swivel on both ends of the tether or chain, and that is not attached to the dog by a properly fitting harness or collar. Provides that a person commits the offense of unlawful dog tethering or chaining under any circumstance if the person tethers or chains an unaltered dog or a dog under six months of age. Provides that the offense of unlawful dog tethering or chaining is a class B misdemeanor.		
Description Establishes the offense of unlawful dog tethering or chaining					

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status	Position	Priority
MO	HB 995	Motion To Do Pass Failed S 2023 04 25	Failed sine die	Support	High
Title OPERATION OF PET SHOPS			Bill Summary: Last edited by Jeff Plummer at Feb 1, 2023, 3:09 PM Amends Title XVII (Agriculture & Animals), Chapter 273 (Dogs-Cats) of the Revised Statutes of Missouri by adding a new section 273.358 to prohibit adoption of local ordinances restricting the operation of licensed pet shops. Provides that a political subdivision shall not adopt or enforce an ordinance or other regulation that prohibits or effectively prohibits the operation of a pet shop licensed under sections 273.325 to 273.357 from operating within their state license. Provides that nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit the enforcement of any applicable building codes, general zoning requirements, or relevant inspections as otherwise required by ordinance or law.		
Description Creates provisions related to the operation of pet shops					

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status	Position	Priority
MO	SB 91	Hearing Conducted S Health And Welfare Committee 2023 03 01	Failed sine die	Monitor	Medium
Title Modifies provisions relating to abuse and neglect reporting, including a requirement to report companion animal abuse			Bill Summary: Last edited by Jeff Plummer at Dec 6, 2022, 4:43 PM Amends Title XII (Public Health & Welfare), Chapters 192 (Dept. of Health & Senior Services) and 210 (Child Protection and Reformation) of the Revised Statutes of Missouri by adding new sections to require veterinarians, animal control officers, and animal humane investigators to be mandated reporters in cases of abuse and neglect of children, the elderly, and other vulnerable persons. Provides that any animal control officers or animal humane investigators shall be required to receive one hour of training within the first 60 days of employment to recognize the signs of abuse or neglect in children, the elderly, and vulnerable persons. Creates a mandated reporting requirement for certain mental health, educational, protective services, and law enforcement personnel to report cases of companion animal abuse or neglect to a hotline established by the Missouri Animal Control Association. Provides that a mandated reporter who fails to make a report shall be subject to discipline by his or her professional licensing board, as well as a fine. For purposes of this section: "Companion animal" is defined in the act as a living creature maintained by a household for companionship and not commercial purposes.		

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status	Position	Priority
MO	SB 115	Reported Do Pass H Rules Administrative Oversight 2023 05 10	Failed sine die	Monitor	High
Title Modifies provisions relating to the practice of veterinary medicine			Bill Summary: Last edited by Jeff Plummer at Dec 6, 2022, 4:35 PM Amends Title XXII (Occupations & Professions), Chapter 340 (Veterinarians) of the Revised Statutes of Missouri by adding a new Section 201 to provide that the General Assembly hereby occupies and preempts the entire field of legislation concerning the practice of veterinary medicine regulated under this chapter. Provides that a political subdivision of this state is preempted from enacting, maintaining, or enforcing any order, ordinance, rule, regulation, policy, or other similar measure that prohibits, restricts, limits, regulates, controls, directs, or interferes with the practice of veterinary medicine. Provides that nothing in this section shall preclude or preempt a political subdivision of this state from exercising its lawful authority to regulate zoning or land use, to enforce a building or fire code regulation, to impose a tax or license fee for the privilege of carrying on the profession of veterinary medicine consistent with the laws regulating such taxes or license fees, to require vaccinations and licensing of animals kept within the boundaries of the political subdivision, to prohibit animal abuse, or otherwise to regulate for the general health, safety, sanitation, and welfare as long as the order, ordinance, rule, regulation, policy, or other measure does not interfere with, restrict, or limit the ability of a lawfully licensed person from engaging in any act or performing any procedure that falls within the professionally recognized scope of practice of veterinary medicine.		

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status	Position	Priority
MO	SB 132	Hearing Conducted S Agriculture Food Production And Outdoor Resources Committee 2023 03 07	Failed sine die	Monitor	Low
Title Modifies and creates new provisions relating to confiscation of animals			Bill Summary: Last edited by Jeff Plummer at Dec 19, 2022, 12:57 PM Amends Title XXXVIII (Crimes & Punishment; Peace Officers & Public Defenders), Chapter 578 (Miscellaneous Offenses) of Missouri Revised Statutes by adding two new sections relating to the confiscation of certain animals along with penalty provisions. Requires that a warrant only be sought by a law enforcement officer, and is to confiscate, rather than impound animals. (Currently, any public health official or law enforcement officer may seek a warrant to inspect, care for, or impound neglected or abused animals.) Provides that a person acting under the authority of a warrant is required to appear at a disposition hearing before the court through which the warrant was issued within 10 days of the confiscation, rather than within 30 days of the filing of the request, for the purpose of granting immediate disposition of the animals. Provides that an animal cannot be sterilized before the completion of the disposition hearing unless it is necessary to save life or relieve suffering. Provides that all confiscated animals shall receive proper care and that facilities shall be liable to the animal owner for damages for any negligent acts or abuse.		

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status	Position	Priority
MO	SB 222	In Conference 2023 05 12	Passed House	Support	High
Title Modifies provisions relating to political subdivisions			Bill Summary: Last edited by Jeff Plummer at May 2, 2023, 5:09 PM The "Protecting Missouri's Small Businesses Act" provides that any political subdivision that implements any shutdown order and the business closes solely due to such shutdown order for at least 21 consecutive days or 45 cumulative days shall waive the fee for a business license during the period of the shutdown order and reduce the real and personal property tax liability of the business as provided in the act.		

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status	Position	Priority
MO	SB 471	Scs Voted Do Pass S Agriculture Food Production And Outdoor Resources Committee 1643 S 02 C 2023 04 04	Failed sine die	Monitor	Low
Title Modifies provisions related to animal chiropractic practitioners			Bill Summary: Last edited by Jeff Plummer at Jan 18, 2023, 7:26 PM Amends Title XXII (Occupations & Professions), Chapter 340 (Veterinarians), Section 200 (Definitions) of MO Revised Statutes to create new provisions of law relating to animal chiropractic practitioners. Exempts animal chiropractic practitioners, engaging in the practice of animal chiropractic, from the veterinary licensure provisions of this Chapter. Provides definitions for: "Animal chiropractic" means the examination and diagnosis of an animal and treatment of the animal through vertebral subluxation complex, spinal, joint, and musculoskeletal manipulation by an animal chiropractic practitioner. "Animal chiropractic practitioner" means a licensed veterinarian certified by the AVCA or IVCA, or an individual who is licensed by the state board of chiropractic examiners to engage in the practice of chiropractic, as defined in section 331.010, who is certified by the AVCA or IVCA. "AVCA" means the American Veterinary Chiropractic Association or its successor organization. "IVCA" means the International Veterinary Chiropractic Association or its successor organization.		

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status	Position	Priority
MO	SB 486	Second Read And Referred S Agriculture Food Production And Outdoor Resources Committee 2023 03 23	Failed sine die	Monitor	Low
Title Regulates human and pet cemeteries			Bill Summary: Last edited by Jeff Plummer at Jan 18, 2023, 7:47 PM Amends Title XXII (Public Health & Welfare), Chapter 214 (Cemeteries), Section 214.270 (Definitions) of the Revised Statutes of Missouri to provide a definition for "human and pet cemetery". For purposes of this section: "Human and pet cemetery" means a tract of real estate separate from a cemetery in which both human remains and the remains of creatures other than human may be interred and memorialized at the discretion of the lot holder and subject to the rules of the human and pet cemetery. Burial space in a human and pet cemetery shall have the same meaning as defined in this section but be applicable to pets as well as human dead. A human and pet cemetery shall be treated as a cemetery under sections 214.270 to 214.410 for purposes of licensing and endowed care.		

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status	Position	Priority
MO	SB 530	Second Read And Referred S Emerging Issues Committee 2023 03 23	Failed sine die	Support	High

Title

Creates provisions related to the operation of pet shops

Bill Summary: Last edited by Jeff Plummer at Jan 24, 2023, 1:42 PM
Amends Title XVII (Agriculture & Animals), Chapter 273 (Dogs-Cats) of the Revised Statutes of Missouri by adding a new section 273.358 to prohibit adoption of local ordinances restricting the operation of licensed pet shops. Provides that a political subdivision shall not adopt or enforce an ordinance or other regulation that prohibits or effectively prohibits the operation of a pet shop licensed under sections 273.325 to 273.357 from operating within their state license. Provides that nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit the enforcement of any applicable building codes, general zoning requirements, or relevant inspections as otherwise required by ordinance or law.

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