

House Bill 1106

By: Representative Maddox of the 172nd

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Article 1 of Chapter 11 of Title 4 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated,
2 relating to general provisions relative to animal protection, so as to provide that animal
3 shelters and similar facilities shall scan animals for microchips prior to euthanasia; to define
4 a certain term; to provide that a reasonable effort shall be made to contact the owner; to
5 provide for a waiver of liability; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

7 **SECTION 1.**

8 Article 1 of Chapter 11 of Title 4 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to
9 general provisions relative to animal protection, is amended by adding a new Code section
10 to read as follows:

11 "4-11-5.2.

12 (a) As used in this Code section, the term 'microchip reader' means a device designed to
13 read microchips at 125 kHz, both encrypted and nonencrypted, 128 kHz, and 134.2 kHz,
14 and which is ISO 11784 and 11785 compliant.

15 (b) Prior to euthanizing any dog, cat, or other large animal traditionally kept as household
16 pets, each animal shelter and other facility operated for the collection and care of stray,
17 neglected, or abandoned animals shall scan for the presence of an identifying microchip
18 through use of a microchip reader. If a microchip is found, the shelter or facility shall make
19 a reasonable effort to contact the owner of the animal prior to euthanizing it.

20 (c) Shelters and facilities and their employees shall not be liable for failing to detect a
21 microchip or failing to contact the owner of the animal. Shelter personnel shall not be
22 required to scan any animal they deem to be too vicious or dangerous to permit safe
23 handling."

24 **SECTION 2.**

25 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.