

Senate Bill 476

By: Senators Kirkpatrick of the 32nd, Black of the 8th, Unterman of the 45th, Stone of the 23rd, Parent of the 42nd and others

AS PASSED SENATE

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 for pet dealers
3 to microchip dogs and cats; to provide for a definition; to provide for standards; to provide
4 for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

5 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:**

6 **SECTION 1.**

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

10 "4-11-5.3.

11 (a) Any person that is licensed as a pet dealer that sells, offers to sell, exchanges, offers for
12 adoption, provides for the care of, or otherwise engages in licensable activity relating to
13 dogs or cats shall microchip each dog or cat prior to being sold, exchanged, transferred, or
14 adopted. A dog or cat shall not be sold, exchanged, transferred, or adopted or microchipped
15 prior to eight weeks of age. If such dog or cat is over the age of eight weeks, such animal
16 shall be microchipped within 30 days of acquiring such animal or prior to the animal being
17 sold, exchanged, transferred, or adopted, whichever occurs first. For purposes of this Code
18 section, the term 'microchip' shall have the same meaning as provided in subsection (a) of
19 Code Section 4-11-5.2.

20 (b) Microchipping of any dog or cat shall meet the standards set forth under the rules and
21 regulations promulgated by the Commissioner of Agriculture."

22 **SECTION 2.**

23 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.