

**Senate Bill 280**  
**FACT SHEET**

Highlights

- Requiring shelters to be advised by and to follow the advice of a veterinarian regarding ways of reducing spread of disease and provision of adequate veterinary care
- Requiring vaccinations within 8 hours of an animal entering a shelter, requiring a health exam within 72 hours and on an as-needed basis outside of that timeframe
- Increasing the likelihood of adoption or recovery by an animal's owner by:
  - Requiring shelters to be open outside of normal business hours for the public to interact with adoptable animals
  - Requiring that all animals be checked for identification upon entry to the shelter
  - Requiring that shelters maintain a lost and found list of animals online and that the list be checked
  - Requiring a reclamation period of 3 days before an animal can be adopted or transferred to another facility, to allow the current owner the opportunity to locate the animal
  - Requiring a 5 day period before euthanasia can be performed
- Provides a list of steps that must be taken before an animal can be euthanized, including:
  - Lost and found list checked
  - No empty cages/kennels suitable for the animal to be kept in
  - The shelter must maintain and check a list of organizations (other shelters, breed-specific rescues) that must be checked to see whether they would be willing to take the animal
- Requiring certain specific requirements regarding euthanasia and requiring the Department of Ag to promulgate regulations regarding euthanasia methods and each of the shelters to adopt a policy manual regarding euthanasia that is specific to their facility.
- Requiring shelters to maintain and post quarterly on their website certain statistics, including intake rate, euthanasia rate, number of adoptions, reclamations and transfers

The following animal shelters in Delaware support the bill:

Faithful Friends  
Delaware Humane Association  
Delaware SPCA  
Kent SPCA  
Safe Havens