

## **Please Support HB 1125 Impound Livestock Veterinarian Determination**

**Below are pertinent facts regarding the drafting and purpose of HB 1125.**

- The bill was drafted with the input of the Colorado Dept of Agriculture and the Dumb Friends League.
- Each suggestion and concern by both entities was addressed either in the bill or in prepared amendments.

**Below are responses to the one-pagers that have been distributed by the opponents.**

- The bill indeed separates livestock from pets and there is a difference between the way they are cared for. This separation in the bill came from the discussion with the Dumb Friends League and only addresses livestock.
- The use of “preserve the life” in the bill is just that. If in a veterinarian’s opinion that either through neglect or abuse the animal’s life is in danger, it can and should be impounded. This bill is not intended to create a different standard of abuse or neglect for any animal.
- The issue of a different standard for probable cause was also brought to the sponsor from the Dumb Friends League and there will be an amendment to ensure the standard for that probable cause is not changed.
- New liability issues for veterinarians are being addressed with an amendment to provide the same type of immunity given other licensed medical professionals.

**The assertion that more animals will die is unfounded. What the bill does is to put in statute what is current practice in most cases. However, there have been cases in the past in which healthy animals were seized, adopted out, castrated, or even euthanized and then ordered to be returned by the court.**

**The argument that the “Animal Care” bill from last year would prevent this is also not true. Under last years bill, the animals would still be confiscated and then ten days later the court would decide if the animals should have been taken - after the fact and after the stress of moving the animal to a new environment.**

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