

HOUSE BILL NO. HB0207

Neglected and abandoned animals-grant program.

Sponsored by: Representative(s) Krone and Senator(s) Coe

A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to animals; creating the neglected and
 2 abandoned animals grant program; providing for
 3 administration of the grant program by the department of
 4 agriculture; providing for eligibility; providing for an
 5 application process; providing criteria for awarding a
 6 grant under the program; providing rulemaking authority;
 7 creating an account; providing appropriations; and
 8 providing for an effective date.

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10 *Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Wyoming:*

11

12 **Section 1.** W.S. 11-31-401 through 11-31-405 are
 13 created to read:

14

15

ARTICLE 4

16

NEGLECTED AND ABANDONED ANIMALS GRANT PROGRAM

17

1 **11-31-401. Neglected and abandoned animals grant**
2 **program; administration.**

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4 There is created the neglected and abandoned animals grant
5 program to assist communities in providing care for
6 neglected or abandoned cats and dogs. Grants under the
7 program shall be awarded by the neglected and abandoned
8 animals board created pursuant to W.S. 11-31-402. The
9 program shall be administered by the department.

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11 **11-31-402. Wyoming neglected and abandoned animal**
12 **board; creation; members.**

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14 (a) There is created the Wyoming neglected and
15 abandoned animals board. The board shall consist of five
16 (5) members, as follows:

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18 (i) The director of the department or his
19 designee; and

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21 (ii) Four (4) persons appointed by the governor,
22 including:

23

24 (A) Two (2) licensed veterinarians; and

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(B) Two (2) citizens from the public at large.

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(b) Except for the director of the department of agriculture who shall serve continuously, members of the board shall serve terms of three (3) years. The initial board shall have staggered terms of one (1) member for one (1) year, two (2) members for two (2) years and one (1) member for three (3) years, as determined by the governor.

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(c) Board members shall be reimbursed for per diem, mileage and expenses for attending meetings in the same manner and amount as state employees.

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11-31-403. Duties and powers of the board; duties of the department; rulemaking authority.

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(a) In awarding grants under the program, the board shall:

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(i) Determine the best allocation of grant funds based on the applications submitted and the funds available;

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2 (ii) Determine whether to award a grant to an
3 applicant based on:

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5 (A) The ability of the applicant to use the
6 requested funds to care for neglected and abandoned dogs
7 and cats;

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9 (B) Whether the community applying for the
10 grant is currently served by an animal control entity;

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12 (C) The unmet need in the community for the
13 care of neglected and abandoned dogs and cats.

14

15 (b) The board may accept federal grants and other
16 contributions, grants, gifts, transfers, bequests and
17 donations. The board, through the department, may apply
18 for any available grants for the care of neglected and
19 abandoned animals.

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21 (c) In administering the program the department
22 shall:

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1 (i) In consultation with the board, promulgate
2 reasonable rules and regulations necessary to carry out the
3 purposes of this act including rules relating to:

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5 (A) Grant application procedures;

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7 (B) Grant eligibility; and

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9 (C) Criteria for evaluation, ranking and
10 prioritization of grant applications;

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12 (D) Appropriate expenditure of grant funds
13 for the care of neglected and abandoned animals, including:

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15 (I) Providing shelter and food;

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17 (II) Providing medical care for
18 neglected and abandoned animals, including spaying or
19 neutering and euthanasia when appropriate;

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21 (III) Animal adoption programs;

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23 (IV) Appropriate administrative costs.

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1 **11-31-404. Grant eligibility; distribution of funds.**

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3 (a) To qualify for a grant under this act, an
4 applicant shall:

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6 (i) Be a board of county commissioners or the
7 governing body of a municipality;

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9 (ii) Have an unmet or unfunded need to care for
10 neglected or abandoned animals within the boundaries of the
11 political subdivision over which the applicant has
12 authority;

13

14 (iii) Submit a grant application pursuant to
15 rules promulgated under this article.

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17 (b) Grant funds shall only be distributed to an
18 entity under the complete control of the state of Wyoming
19 or a nonprofit entity who provides care for neglected and
20 abandoned animals in the political subdivision of the
21 applicant.

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23 **11-31-405. Neglected and abandoned animals account;**
24 **disbursements from the account.**

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2 There is created the neglected and abandoned animals
3 account. The account shall consist of those funds
4 appropriated to the account by the legislature and all
5 monies received from federal grants and other
6 contributions, grants, gifts, transfers, bequests and
7 donations to the trust account. The account is specifically
8 empowered to accept grants, gifts, transfers, bequests and
9 donations. Funds shall only be withdrawn from the account
10 for grants authorized by the neglected and abandoned
11 animals board as provided in this article.

12

13 **Section 2.**

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15 (a) There is appropriated one hundred thousand
16 dollars (\$100,000.00) from the general fund to the
17 neglected and abandoned animals account created by this
18 act. This appropriation shall only be expended to provide
19 grants pursuant to this act. Notwithstanding any other
20 provision of law, any unexpended funds appropriated under
21 this section shall not revert until further act of the
22 legislature to revert the funds.

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1 (b) There is appropriated seventy-five thousand
2 dollars (\$75,000.00) from the general fund to the
3 department of agriculture to fulfill the purposes of this
4 act. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, this
5 appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any
6 other purpose and any unexpended, unobligated funds
7 remaining from this appropriation shall revert as provided
8 by law on June 30, 2014.

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10 **Section 3.** This act is effective July 1, 2013.

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(END)