

Shelter, Rescue, and Dealer Regulation

DR. GRAHAM BRAYSHAW, MVMA SMALL ANIMAL WELFARE COMMITTEE



Agenda

1. Goals
2. Details
3. Questions
4. Feedback process

MVMA Small Animal Welfare Committee

- Identify issues that affect small animal welfare in the state of Minnesota.
- Develop and monitor programs and policies to improve small animal welfare.
- For the purposes of this committee, small animals are defined as animals commonly managed by small animal veterinary practitioners.



Motivating Concerns

1. Dogs and cats adopted with concerns and no evidence of vetting, support, or option for return
2. Impound work with concerns about standards of care
3. Large percentage of dog import into MN through orgs with no oversight

Goals

1. Improve care of dogs and cats by animal welfare groups
2. Minimal change for groups doing things well
3. Appropriate oversight and accountability for groups that need to improve
4. Minimal impact on numbers helped





Summary of changes

1. Expand scope of statutes to include foster-based rescues and all impound work
2. Require veterinary relationship and review of protocols
3. Require disclosure of medical record and bite history
4. Put Facility, Standards of Care, and Enrichment requirements in statute

Things we intentionally did not do

1. Expand beyond dogs and cats
2. Impact foster homes
3. Set a number of animals threshold
4. Require veterinary inspection of every animal



Include Rescue and Impound



1. Definition based on placing animals in new homes
2. Where you house animals differentiates rescue and shelter
3. Shelters fully include impounds
4. No exemptions for vet clinics that do impound work
5. Fosters defined by not inspected

Vet Relationship/ Protocol

1. Protocol for disease control, euthanasia, and veterinary care
2. Signed yearly by a vet who visits premises at least every 4 months
3. Committee will support Board in creating template protocols



Medical Records/Bite History



1. Every org is allowed to place what they think is appropriate
2. Health record must be disclosed
3. Bite history must be disclosed and documented

Standards of Care

1. Based on national standards
2. Cat housing – 21” high and 6 square feet
3. Dog housing – 6” above top of head, at least 5 square feet, nose to base of tail time 1.33, squared, divide by 144
4. Puppies and Kittens need less space
5. Disease/behavior/species limitations for animals in the same enclosure
6. Clean food and water, cleanable enclosure environment





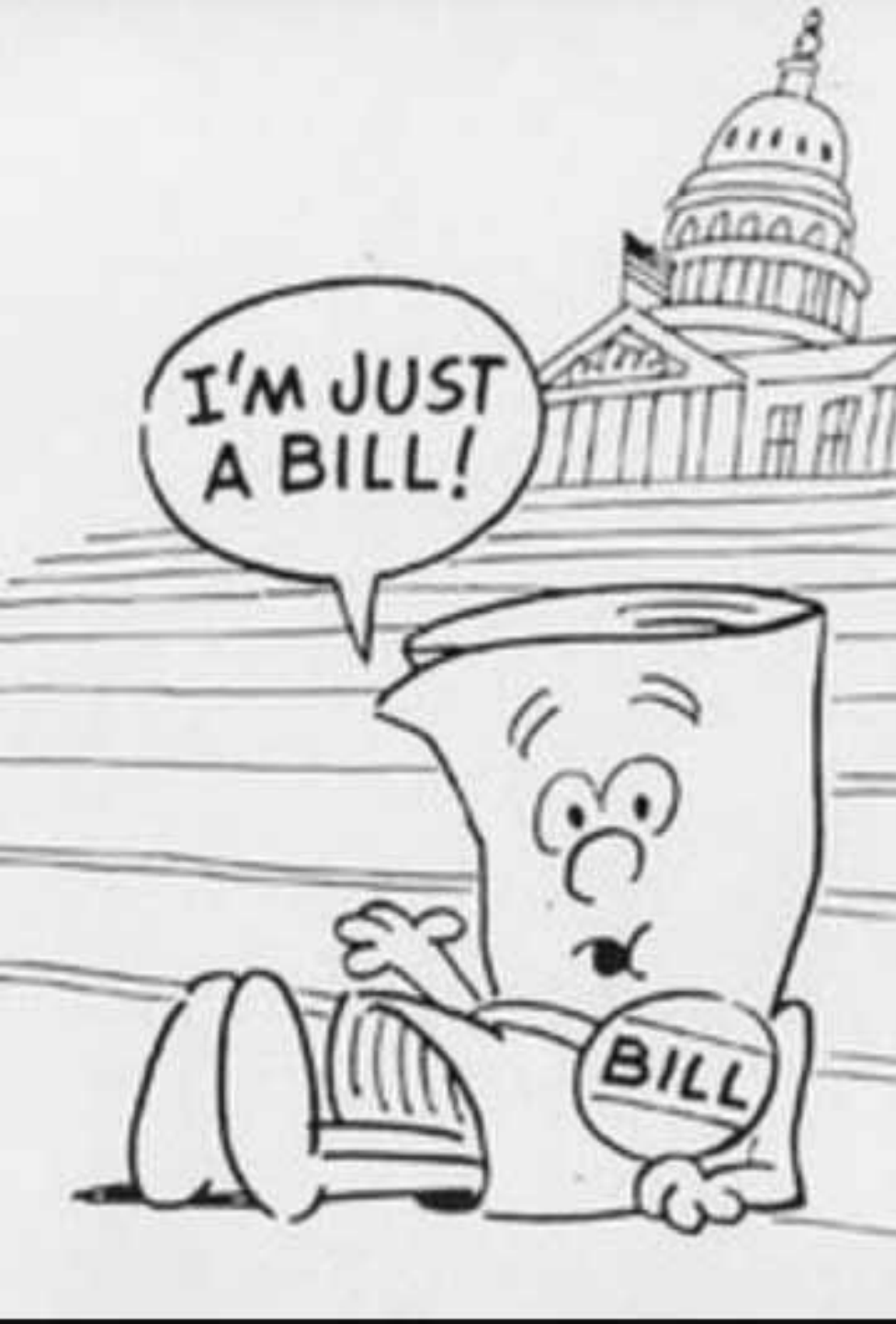
Enrichment

1. Physical activity at least 3 times per week
2. Dogs out of their primary enclosure daily
3. Opportunity for species-typical behaviors
4. Social contact with people and compatible animals 3 times per week
5. Socialization of puppies and kittens daily



Details of note

1. \$250 license fee – up from \$15
2. Online license lookup with basic information including any corrective orders
3. The Board shall make rules to support this legislation
4. Repealed statute requiring license number on all advertising
5. Inspection can be any time during daylight hours and the Board must report any animal cruelty identified.
6. Licensees cannot have a record of gross misdemeanor or felony animal cruelty under any jurisdiction



Process from here

1. We've gotten some valuable feedback, and we want more!
2. Let us know if you want a copy
3. Email thoughts – gbrays@gmail.com
4. Next committee meeting June 4th
5. Hope to see this passed next session

