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LEGISLATURE *of* THE STATE *of* KANSAS  
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300 SW TENTH AVENUE ■ SUITE 24-E ■ TOPEKA, KS 66612 ■ (785) 296-2321

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**MEMORANDUM**

To: House Committee on Agriculture  
From: Kyle Hamilton, Assistant Revisor of Statutes  
Date: January 30, 2017  
Subject: Bill Brief on HB 2097

HB 2097 makes amendments to the pet animal act. Section 1 provides guidelines for operating a rescue network. A person must obtain a license before operating a rescue network. Rescue networks may use pet animal foster homes, and the rescue network is responsible for ensuring the foster homes comply with the pet animal act. Each rescue network must have a manager who is responsible for carrying out the administrative duties for the rescue network.

Section 2 provides that rescue networks and animal shelters that are properly licensed may host adoption events at a location other than the licensed premises if all rules and regulations are complied with. The animal health commissioner shall be made aware of any such adoption event.

Section 3 amends the definition section of the pet animal act. It modernizes the definitions to use current language used in the industry. It strikes the definitions of “hobby breeder premises,” “hobby breeder,” “retail breeder,” “retail breeder premises,” “retail” and “wholesale,” and defines “rescue network,” “rescue network manager” and “pet animal foster home.”

Sections 4 and 5 provide that new licenses issued shall expire on September 30 instead of June 30.

Section 6 provides that animal shelters may use pet animal foster homes and are responsible for ensuring such pet animal foster homes comply with this act.

Section 7 provides that a person who has been convicted of cruelty to animals shall not receive a license or permit.

Section 8 requires the animal health commissioner to inspect each premises for which a license or permit is issued in accordance with an inspection frequency schedule to be adopted by rules and regulations.

Sections 9 and 10 amend references to definitions that are changing or being removed by the bill.

Section 11 removes the requirement that the commissioner may only adopt certain rules and regulations for USDA licensed breeders.

Section 13 changes the license fee caps for the various licenses available under this act.

Section 15 amends the membership of the Kansas pet animal advisory board to include both an animal breeder who holds a USDA license and an animal breeder who is only licensed under the state. A licensed rescue network manager would also be added to the membership.

Section 17 allows students at all accredited colleges of veterinary medicine to spay or neuter dogs and cats on behalf of an animal shelter or rescue network.

Additionally, the bill strikes the terms “pound” and “kennel” throughout the act and replaces the term “facility” with “premises.” The bill also repeals four additional statutes including a severability clause, the hobby breeder license provision, the temporary closing permit provision and the retail breeder license category.