

HOUSE BILL 2543

By Potts

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 44;
Title 63, Chapter 12 and Title 68, relative to
animals.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 44, Chapter 17, Part 4, is amended by adding the following as a new section:

(a) If an animal control agency takes possession of an animal due to the death of the animal's owner, the owner's relative shall retrieve the animal from the animal control agency within seven (7) days of the owner's death. If the owner's relative fails to retrieve the animal within seven (7) days, the animal control agency shall treat the animal as an abandoned animal.

(b) As used in this section, "animal control agency" has the same meaning given in § 44-8-408.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.