



## Spay Neuter Bill Passed and Signed into Law!

**We are pleased to report that Spay Neuter Bill - HB 2523 passed the Arizona Legislature and was signed into law by Governor Ducey!**

This will allow Arizona residents to make a voluntary contribution through the tax check-off program to fund much-needed affordable spay/neuter services throughout Arizona (including Trap, Neuter Return services for Outdoor Cats). Monies raised via this voluntary check off program will be administered at no additional cost through an existing fund.

Thanks to everyone who took action and reached out to their elected officials asking for support of Arizona's animals! The measure passed the House by a vote of [42-11-2](#) and passed the Senate [23-6-1](#). If your legislators voted 'yes' on the bill, please thank them for their support. Special thanks to Rep. Drew John, who sponsored HB 2523, and to Sen. Kate Brophy McGee, who sponsored the original version of the bill.



HB 2523 will do many important things:

- Curb pet overpopulation and shelter costs
- Reduce municipal tax burdens due to animal control
- Reduce euthanasia of adoptable cats and dogs
- Protect human health against bites from aggressive/stray animals
- Reduce dangers on roadways due to loose animals

Monies raised via this voluntary check off program would be administered at no additional cost through an existing fund.

Three years ago, seven Maricopa County based nonprofits committed to tackling pet overpopulation - through [Fix Adopt Save](#). Over the past three years, this coordinated effort has resulted in a 27 percent increase in the number of spay/neuter surgeries performed; which in turn has resulted in a 39 percent decrease in shelter intake and euthanasia rates have plummeted by 79 percent.

Thank you for speaking for Arizona's animals!

Humane Voters of Arizona

Humane Voters of Arizona and its partner groups in the Humane Legislative Coalition of Arizona (HCLA) led efforts to pass HB 2523. HCLA includes HVA, Animal Defense League of Arizona, Arizona Humane Society, and Humane Society of Southern Arizona. Thanks to HLCA's government consultant, Brian Tassinari, for his efforts to get HB 2523 passed and signed into law!

*Photo of rescue pups by Karen Anderson*

*Photo of TNR'd outdoor cat by Christine Carson*