



Legislation Designates “Adoptable Dog” as State Dog of Georgia

March 4, 2015 (Atlanta, GA) - Legislation presented at the Capitol this morning proposes the “Adoptable Dog” be named the official state dog of Georgia.

Representative Joe Wilkinson (R-Atlanta) is sponsoring the bill. “I am hopeful that people all across Georgia will visit their local shelters and consider adopting an animal in need,” Rep. Wilkinson states. “The purpose of this legislation is to bring attention to the plight of these homeless animals and give them their second chance. It also shines a critical light on pet overpopulation and why it is so important for animal owners to spay and neuter their animals.”

The Humane Society of the United States estimates 7 million animals enter shelters each year. An estimated 2.7 million will be euthanized. That’s why legislation like this is so important to shelters here at home.

Tara High, VP of Operations at the Atlanta Humane Society says the bill gives shelter animals the time and attention they so deserve. “We are committed to finding homes for all adoptable animals. We strive to be a part of the solution to ending pet homelessness and that is exactly what this bill aims to do. Representative Wilkinson is giving potential adopters yet another reason to give shelter and rescue animals a chance. That is absolutely legislation we stand behind.”

- WHAT:** Media conference introducing legislation designating “Adoptable Dog” as State Dog of Georgia
- WHO:** Rep. Joe Wilkinson (R-Atlanta)
Tara High, VP of Operations, Atlanta Humane Society
- WHEN:** Wednesday, March 4, 2015 at 1:00 p.m. ET
- WHERE:** Georgia State Capitol
Room 403
206 Washington St SW
Atlanta, GA 30334

For more information, contact media@atlantahumane.org

About Atlanta Humane Society

The Atlanta Humane Society is the oldest private charitable organization in Atlanta, founded in 1873. AHS places approximately 8,000 animals into forever homes each year. We are committed to finding homes for all adoptable pets. It is our **mission** to prevent neglect, abuse, cruelty and exploitation of animals and to assure that their interests and well-being are fully, effectively and humanely protected by an aware and caring society. We are proud to be a part of the solution to ending pet homelessness and overpopulation in the Southeast United States. For more, visit www.atlantahumane.org.