

Substitute for House Resolution No. 126.

A resolution to declare August 19, 2017, as International Homeless Animals Day in the state of Michigan.

Whereas, Governor Rick Snyder declared July 8, 2016, as Pet Adoption Awareness Day; and

Whereas, Each year, 6.5 million companion animals enter shelters in the United States and 1.5 million shelter animals are euthanized each year; and

Whereas, Only 35 percent of dogs and 37 percent of cats in shelters get adopted; and

Whereas, The 2014 Michigan Shelter Survey reports that, approximately 24 percent of the animals that enter a shelter in the state are euthanized; and

Whereas, In light of this dismal statistic, there is a need to increase public awareness about the benefits of pet adoption. Pet adoption helps individuals find a truly loving companion, while providing a shelter animal a much needed forever home; and

Whereas, In 2016, the Michigan Humane Society saved the lives of more than 11,200 animals; and

Whereas, Animal shelters are always in need of donations and volunteers. These organizations would cease to function without donations and volunteers from the community; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives, That the members of this legislative body declare August 19, 2017, as International Homeless Animals Day in the state of Michigan. We recognize the immense benefits of pet adoption and the positive impact this practice makes in communities across the state.