

OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH  
PUBLIC ACT SUMMARY



**PA 25-129—sHB 6277**

*Environment Committee*

**AN ACT CONCERNING THE ADOPTION OF ANIMALS FROM  
CERTAIN INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION**

**SUMMARY:** This act requires public and private higher education institutions, under certain circumstances, to offer any rabbit, guinea pig, or ferret used for research or testing to an animal adoption or rescue organization for adoption. An education institution must make the adoption offer when the (1) research or testing is complete, (2) destruction of the animal is not required, and (3) animal is no longer needed by the institution. Existing law already requires these institutions to make an adoption offer for cats and dogs used in research or testing.

The law allows the institutions to enter into agreements with adoption or rescue organizations for this purpose. It specifies that these organizations include a collaboration of individuals or nonprofit organizations who sell or place animals that were removed from animal shelters, municipal dog pounds, or homes.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** October 1, 2025