



SUPPORT SB 1390 (Lewis)

*Clarify the law to address community cat populations
humanely and effectively*

What SB 1390 Does:

- Allows public or private animal shelters, releasing agencies, or hospitals or clinics the option to operate a Trap-Neuter-Return (TNR) program. TNR is a nonlethal strategy to reduce the population of unowned community cats by humanely trapping cats, sterilizing, vaccinating, and returning them to where they were trapped.
- Protects program volunteers from civil and criminal charges of abandonment or neglect for the return of healthy, sterilized, and vaccinated cats to the location where they were trapped.
- Relieves Virginia municipal shelters, and by extension taxpayers, from incurring the costs of ineffective community cat trapping and euthanasia.
- Establishes standards for program volunteers, including requirements for recordkeeping and trapping.

Why Support this Bill?

- It will humanely and effectively reduce the number of community cats, as well as the nuisance behavior, public health and wildlife predation concerns associated with them.
- It will reduce the number of community cats who are impounded and killed in municipal and private animal shelters and improve the welfare of community cats.
- It will mobilize individuals to go beyond feeding to provide TNR without the fear of prosecution.

TNR is supported by many Virginia shelters, as well as the Virginia Federation of Humane Societies and Humane Dominion. National organizations that support TNR include The Humane Society of the United States, Alley Cat Allies, the American Association of Feline Practitioners, the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (ASPCA), the Association of Shelter Veterinarians, Best Friends Animal Society, Cat Fanciers' Association, Humane Society Veterinary Medical Association, and the National Animal Control Association.

To learn more:

- [Fairfax County: Community Cats & TNR](#)
- [Managing Community Cats: A Guide for Municipal Leaders](#)
- [Community Cats: Public Policy & Legal Issues](#)
- [What is Trap-Neuter-Return?](#)
- [Richmond SPCA - Trap-Neuter-Return: A Lifesaving, Humane Resource](#)

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