

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

Interim – May-December:
1292 Sadler Way Rm. 323
Fairbanks, AK 99701
907-452-1088



Session – January-April:
State Capitol Rm 500
Juneau, AK 99801
907-465-3004

Representative Will Stapp

District 32: East Fairbanks, Fort Wainwright, Badger

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January 19, 2026

Sectional Analysis for HB 258

Section 1 – Establishment of Statewide Spay and Neuter Assistance Program

Creates a statewide spay and neuter assistance program to support efforts to reduce the overpopulation of companion animals in Alaska.

Purpose:

Provide a coordinated, statewide approach to preventative animal population control, particularly in areas with limited access to veterinary services.

Section 2 – Creation of the Statewide Spay and Neuter Assistance Fund

Establishes the Statewide Spay and Neuter Assistance Fund to receive and manage revenues dedicated to the program.

The fund may receive:

- Voluntary contributions,
- Proceeds from special request vehicle registration plates, and
- Other authorized revenues.

Purpose:

Create a dedicated funding source to support spay and neuter services without relying primarily on general fund appropriations.

Section 3 – Program Administration

Authorizes the appropriate state agency to administer the spay and neuter assistance program and fund, including:

- Developing program guidelines,
- Awarding grants or assistance,
- Partnering with veterinarians, municipalities, tribal entities, and nonprofit organizations.

Purpose:

Ensure the program is administered efficiently and can adapt to varying needs across Alaska's diverse communities.

Section 4 – Special Request Companion Animal License Plates

Authorizes the creation of special request vehicle registration plates related to companion animal spay and neuter efforts.

- Proceeds from the sale of the plates are deposited into the spay and neuter assistance fund.
- Plate design and issuance are subject to existing special request plate statutes.

Purpose:

Provide a voluntary, user-supported funding mechanism and allow Alaskans to visibly support animal welfare initiatives.

Section 5 – Permanent Fund Dividend Contributions

Allows individuals to make voluntary contributions from their Permanent Fund Dividend to the Statewide Spay and Neuter Assistance Fund.

Purpose:

Leverage an existing, familiar mechanism to support the program without mandating participation or increasing taxes.

Section 6 – Use of Funds

Specifies that money in the fund may be used to:

- Support spay and neuter services,
- Reduce companion animal overpopulation,
- Assist communities with high animal control and sheltering costs.

Purpose:

Ensure funds are used solely for preventative animal population control and related program costs.

Section 7 – Conforming and Technical Amendments

Makes necessary conforming or technical amendments to existing statutes to implement the program, fund, license plates, and PFD contribution provisions.

Purpose:

Ensure consistency within Alaska statutes and smooth implementation of the new program.

Section 8 – Effective Date

Establishes the effective date of the Act.

Summary

HB 258 creates a statewide, preventative approach to addressing animal overpopulation by establishing a spay and neuter assistance program and dedicated fund. The bill relies on voluntary funding mechanisms, including specialty license plates and PFD contributions, to reduce long-term public costs, improve animal welfare, and support communities across Alaska.