A BILL for an Act to create and enact a new section to chapter 36-21.2 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to the humane treatment of former research animals.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:

SECTION 1. A new section to chapter 36-21.2 of the North Dakota Century Code is created and enacted as follows:

Former research animals - Humane treatment.

1. As used in this section:
   a. "Animal rescue organization" means any nonprofit organization that has tax-exempt status under Section 501(c)(3) of the United States Internal Revenue Code, and the mission and practice of which is rescuing animals and finding permanent, adoptive homes for the animals.
   b. "Animal shelter" means any nonprofit organization that provides housing and care for animals directly, or through agreements with third parties, and the purpose of which is finding permanent homes for animals through adoption.
   c. "Private placement" means an arrangement between a research facility and an individual seeking to adopt a retired animal.
   d. "Research facility" means a higher education institution research facility that receives public funding or is tax-exempt, a facility that provides research in collaboration with a higher education facility, or any other facility that conducts experiments on dogs or cats for scientific, testing, educational, or research purposes.
   e. "Retired animal" means a dog or cat that was previously used or held for scientific, testing, educational, or research purposes and is no longer needed by.
Sixty-fifth
Legislative Assembly

the research facility, and has no substantial medical conditions preventing the
safe adoption of the animal.

2. A research facility, or an employee or student of a research facility, which confines and
uses dogs or cats for scientific, testing, educational, or research purposes, upon
retiring the animal shall:
   a. Offer the animal to an animal rescue organization or animal shelter for adoption
      before euthanizing the animal; or
   b. Offer the animal for adoption through private placement before euthanizing the
      animal.

3. If an animal rescue organization or animal shelter agrees to accept a retired animal
from a research facility under subsection 2, the research facility and the animal rescue
organization or animal shelter shall enter a written agreement to transfer the animal
and implement the requirements of this section.