CERTIFICATION OF ENROLLMENT

**SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5212**

Chapter 184, Laws of 2019

66th Legislature

2019 Regular Session

ADOPTION OF DOGS AND CATS--SCIENCE OR RESEARCH FACILITIES

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 28, 2019

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| Passed by the Senate April 19, 2019Yeas 47 Nays 0KAREN KEISER**President of the Senate**Passed by the House April 9, 2019Yeas 96 Nays 0FRANK CHOPP**Speaker of the House of Representatives** | CERTIFICATEI, Brad Hendrickson, Secretary of the Senate of the State of Washington, do hereby certify that the attached is **SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5212** as passed by the Senate and the House of Representatives on the dates hereon set forth.BRAD HENDRICKSONSecretary |
| Approved April 29, 2019 3:00 PM | April 30, 2019 |
| JAY INSLEE**Governor of the State of Washington** | **Secretary of State** **State of Washington** |

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**SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5212**

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AS AMENDED BY THE HOUSE

Passed Legislature - 2019 Regular Session

**State of Washington 66th Legislature 2019 Regular Session**

**By** Senate Higher Education & Workforce Development (originally sponsored by Senators Palumbo, Wilson, L., Rolfes, Mullet, Wilson, C., Hunt, and Kuderer)

AN ACT Relating to adoption of dogs and cats used for science or research purposes; adding a new section to chapter 18.92 RCW; and creating a new section.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

NEW SECTION. **Sec.**  A new section is added to chapter 18.92 RCW to read as follows:

(1) A higher education facility that receives public money, including tax exempt status, or a facility that provides research in collaboration with a higher education facility, that utilizes dogs or cats for scientific, educational, or research purposes, upon conclusion of a dog or cat's use for scientific, educational, or research purposes shall:

(a) Have the facility's attending veterinarian or designee assess the health of the dog or cat and determine if the dog or cat is suitable for adoption, consistent with guidelines promulgated by the American veterinary medical association; and

(b) Make reasonable efforts to offer the dog or cat for adoption, when the dog or cat is deemed suitable for adoption, through the facility's own adoption program or through an animal care and control agency or an animal rescue group as defined in RCW 82.04.040. A facility that offers dogs or cats for adoption to an animal care and control agency or an animal rescue group under this section may enter into an agreement to facilitate adoptions.

(2) Nothing in this section shall:

(a) Create a duty upon an animal care and control agency or an animal rescue group to accept a dog or cat offered for adoption by a research facility; or

(b) Prohibit a facility from completing scientific research or educational use prior to making a suitability for adoption determination.

(3) A research facility that provides a dog or cat for adoption pursuant to this section is immune from any civil liability for acts or omissions relating to the adoption of a dog or cat pursuant to subsection (1) of this section, other than acts constituting willful or wanton misconduct.

NEW SECTION. **Sec.**  This act may be known and cited as the homes for animal heroes act.

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Passed by the Senate April 19, 2019.

Passed by the House April 9, 2019.

Approved by the Governor April 29, 2019.

Filed in Office of Secretary of State April 30, 2019.