

AN ORDINANCE

No. _____

An Ordinance amending Chapter 5 of the Columbus Code to rename and update the provisions pertaining to the Animal Services Advisory Board; and for other purposes.

THE COUNCIL OF COLUMBUS, GEORGIA HEREBY ORDAINS:

SECTION 1.

Section 5-3 of the Columbus Code of Ordinances is hereby deleted in its entirety, and a new Section 5-3 is inserted to read as follows:

“Sec. 5-3. - Animal services advisory board.

- (a) *Established.* An Animal Services Advisory Board is hereby established to be effective October 16, 1984.
- (b) *Mission.* The Animal Services Advisory Board provides guidance and recommendations to support the mission of the Animal Services Division. The Board focuses on areas as ordinance review and promoting responsible pet ownership, community education and classification-related matters. Proposals and recommendations shall normally be presented during board meetings. Matters requiring immediate attention should be referred to the Animal Services Director and the ASAB Chair. The Animal Services Advisory Board shall also carry out the duties prescribed for it in Section 5-11 of this Chapter.
- (c) *Composition of board.* The board shall have seven voting members and two non-voting members to be appointed as follows:
 - (1) One Georgia licensed veterinarian or licensed veterinarian technician shall serve as a voting member. Notwithstanding the provisions of Columbus Code Sec. 2-3.02 he/she need not be a resident of Columbus.) The Georgia licensed veterinarian or licensed veterinarian technician shall be appointed for a two-year term. The appointee shall be eligible to succeed himself/herself.
 - (2) Five citizens to be selected by the Columbus Council shall serve as voting members. The citizen members shall be appointed to serve two-year terms, except for the initial appointments upon adoption of this chapter, one citizen shall be appointed to a one-year term, and one citizen shall be appointed to a two-year term. The citizen board members may only serve three terms consecutively.
 - (3) An employee of the Environmental Health Division, Columbus Department of Public Health shall serve as a non-voting member of the board. The board member is to be appointed by the county board of health and confirmed by the Columbus Council.
 - (4) The contract administrator identified by the mayor and approved by the council in any contract between the consolidated government and a non-profit licensed shelter to provide animal services division services for Columbus shall be a voting ex-officio member of the board.
 - (5) The animal services director shall be a nonvoting ex-officio member of the board for the life of the contract.
 - (6) The Animal Services Advisory Board shall name a recording secretary to provide other clerical and logistical support to the board.
- (d) *Schedule of board meetings.* The board shall meet at a time and place designated by the board chairman. The chairman is authorized to adjust the schedule, except that the board

is required to meet at least semiannually.

- (e) In any event, any member shall abstain from voting upon any issues which touch or bear upon matters in which the member has a pecuniary interest, either proprietorship, salary, or otherwise. In any matter called for a vote in which any member abstains, a failure to win a majority shall constitute a defeat of that issue.”

SECTION 2.

Section 5-11(a) is hereby deleted in its entirety, and a new Section 5-11(a) is hereby inserted to read as follows:

“Sec. 5-11. - Dangerous or vicious dogs.

- (a) All requirements concerning the classification, registration and maintenance of dangerous and vicious dogs will be enforced in Columbus as set forth in O.C.G.A Article 2 of Chapter 8 of Title 4, ("Responsible Dog Ownership Law"). The animal services director shall serve as the dog control officer for purposes of implementing the requirements of the state law. The Animal Services Advisory Board is hereby designated as the authority in Columbus charged with making all determinations and hearing all appeals required by the state law.”

SECTION 3.

All ordinances and parts of ordinances in conflict with this ordinance are hereby repealed.

Introduced at a regular meeting of the Council of Columbus, Georgia, held the 28th day of July 2026; introduced a second time at a regular meeting of said Council held on the 11th day of August 2026 and adopted at said meeting by the affirmative vote of ____ members of said Council.

Councilor Allen	voting _____
Councilor Barnes	voting _____
Councilor Chambers	voting _____
Councilor Cogle	voting _____
Councilor Cook	voting _____
Councilor Crabb	voting _____
Councilor Davis	voting _____
Councilor Garrett	voting _____
Councilor Huff	voting _____
Councilor Tucker	voting _____

Lindsey G. McLemore, Clerk of Council

B.H. “Skip” Henderson, III, Mayor