## CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Around 65 percent of all American households own a cat or dog, and these beloved pets provide affection, companionship, and myriad other benefits for their families; and

WHEREAS, According to the Humane Society of the United States, more than 2.4 million healthy, adoptable animals are euthanized in American shelters each year due to lack of critical resources and public awareness; like other states, Texas currently has a large population of cats and dogs in rescue shelters who are waiting to be placed in a loving home; and

WHEREAS, When Texans choose to adopt rather than purchase an animal, they give the rescue cat or $d o g$ a happier and healthier existence and help reduce the overall shelter population; and

WHEREAS, These furry friends make wonderful pets, offering years of love to those who take them in; the act of giving a rescue animal a forever home can be an exceptionally rewarding experience that forges the bonds of trust and loyalty between the pet and its owner; and

WHEREAS, Of all the jumbo-sized qualities that make the Lone Star State such a distinctive place, it is the big-hearted generosity of its people that is most special, and shelter animals are a fitting symbol of Texans' enduring ability to make the world a better place by helping those in need; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the 86th Legislature of the State of Texas hereby designate rescue shelter cats and dogs as the official state
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1 pets of Texas and encourage all Texans who are considering pet 2 ownership to visit a local animal shelter or rescue group.

