

what you can do

Contact your state Senator & Representative and tell them you want to see pound seizure banned in Minnesota. If you are not sure who represents you and you live in the metro area, call the House Public Information Services at 1-651-296-2146 and the operator will connect you directly to your Representative's or Senator's office. If you live outside the metro area, call 1-800-657-3550. You can also find your state legislators at: www.leg.state.mn.us/leg/Districtfinder.asp.

Sign the online petition at www.endpoundseizuremn.org. We will then email you when a pound seizure bill is introduced into the legislature, keep you posted on the bill's status, and let you know when your help is needed in contacting legislators.

Spread the word by telling your family, friends, and co-workers about the pound seizure law. Print copies of our pound seizure brochure and distribute the brochures at dog parks, at events, at work, in your neighborhood, at schools, and to your family and friends.

Make a donation of at least \$5.00 and receive a pet ID tag which says your pet may not be turned over to a research facility if lost and impounded. By law, pounds and shelters must honor such tags. Make a minimum \$10.00 donation and receive a "Ban Pound Seizure" bandana for your pet to wear to support the cause.

END POUND SEIZURE MINNESOTA

P.O. Box 18413
Minneapolis, MN 55418-4714
info@endpoundseizuremn.org



Donations to End Pound Seizure Minnesota are not tax-deductible. End Pound Seizure Minnesota educates the public about pound seizure in Minnesota and supports the mission of animal shelters in reuniting lost pets with their owners and finding suitable homes for abandoned animals by advocating for an end to the practice of pound seizure in Minnesota through enactment of appropriate legislation.

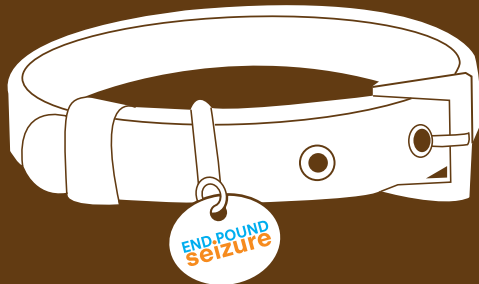
sixty years IS ENOUGH



END.POUND seizure

Minnesota Statute §35.71

**Unclaimed and
unredeemed
animals impounded;
scientific use or
other disposition.**



Minnesotans surrender pets to animal shelters for a variety of reasons — financial insecurity, divorce, illness, relocation, and even death. They believe animal shelters are places where adoptable animals find loving homes and lost animals are reunited with their families. Most Minnesotans do not know that under a 1949 law animals surrendered to publicly funded shelters may be sold to laboratories for experimentation.

Minnesota is one of only three states in the nation that requires publicly funded animal shelters to surrender unclaimed animals for research. Under Minnesota's "pound seizure" law, any animal in a publicly funded shelter for more than five days could be claimed by a licensed institution for research purposes.

Ironically, the original intent of the Minnesota pound seizure law was pet safety. Lawmakers believed that if the state required pounds to surrender unclaimed animals to laboratories, dog and catnapping rings that stole family pets for sale to researchers would be forced out of business. Enacted in 1949, Minnesota's pound seizure law serves as a haunting reminder that the sale and purchase of dogs and cats used for research remained wholly unregulated until enactment of the federal Animal Welfare Act in 1966.



For more information, go to

The National Animal Control Association (NACA) opposes pound seizure because such laws "hinder the efforts of progressive animal shelters to promote animal welfare in a collective atmosphere of public trust." Pound seizure not only jeopardizes public trust in shelters; it also places an unfair burden on animal control officers whose duty it is to safeguard human and animal life.

Animal shelters serve the public good by caring for lost, injured, abandoned, and surrendered animals. Lost or homeless animals should either be put up for adoption or humanely euthanized, not released to institutions for experimentation.

Sixty years is enough.

“It is a betrayal of public trust and a shock to the community when an animal shelter sells a stray or abused cat or dog to research.”

*- Allie Phillips, J.D.
Director of Public Policy
American Humane Association*

www.endpoundseizuremn.org