

SUPPORT SENATE BILL 38

Sponsors: Sen. Wirth, Rep. Parajón, Rep. Ferrary, Sen. Stefanics, and Sen. Berghmans

THE PROBLEM

New Mexico's Affordable Spay/Neuter Law is set to expire on July 1, 2026.

The Affordable Spay/Neuter Law helps curb companion animal overpopulation, decrease shelter intake, and lower euthanasia rates by funding spay/neuter services through fees on registered pet food. **But this effective mechanism for curbing animal over-population will end if the repeal date is not removed.**

THE SOLUTION

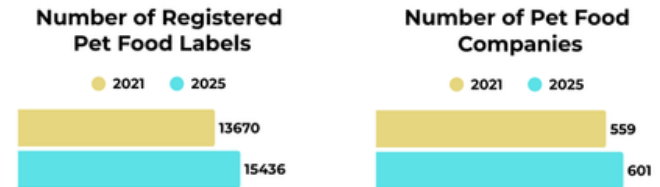
To keep the Affordable/Spay Neuter Law from expiring, Laws 2020, Chapter 69, Section 6, Section 76-19A-10.1 NMSA 1978 needs to be amended! **Senate Bill 38 removes this repeal date.**

IMPACT OF THE LAW

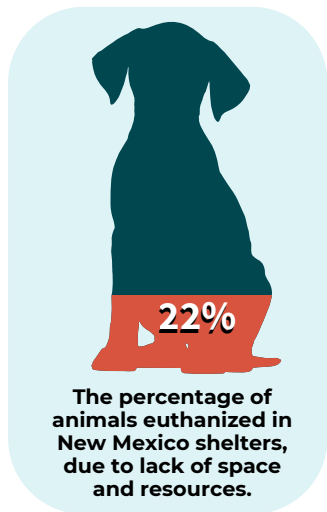
To date, the New Mexico Department of Agriculture's \$100-per-label annual registration fee on qualifying pet food has generated more than \$5 million for spay/neuter services.

In October 2025, close to \$1 million generated by the Affordable Spay/Neuter Law went to qualified providers across New Mexico, allowing them to offer low-cost services that ease the burden on shelters and local families.

Data below collected from the NMDA



WHY MUST THE AFFORDABLE SPAY/NEUTER LAW BE PRESERVED?



- New Mexico has long faced animal overpopulation, particularly in rural and tribal communities where there is limited access to affordable veterinary services.
- Animal shelters frequently operate at or above capacity, resulting in the euthanasia of adoptable animals due to space and resource constraints, at the expense of New Mexican tax payers.
- Overcrowding also forces shelters to turn animals away, leading to abandonment. Intact, often unvaccinated animals roam and reproduce, posing public health and safety risks.

Reliable, ongoing funding for spay/neuter services is essential to reduce shelter intake, protect public safety, and achieve long-term humane outcomes for animals and communities.



Scan the QR code to read our FAQs and see quotes from stakeholders!