

SB 475 - AS AMENDED BY THE SENATE

03/12/2026 1005s

2026 SESSION

26-2034

08/09

SENATE BILL **475**

AN ACT including a determination of the best interest of the animal in the definition of foster home.

SPONSORS: Sen. Birdsell, Dist 19; Sen. Avard, Dist 12; Sen. Ward, Dist 8; Sen. Innis, Dist 7; Sen. Watters, Dist 4; Sen. Abbas, Dist 22; Rep. N. Germana, Ches. 15; Rep. W. MacDonald, Rock. 16; Rep. C. Harvey, Ches. 6

COMMITTEE: Energy and Natural Resources

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ANALYSIS

This bill includes a determination of the best interest of the animal in the definition of foster home.

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Explanation: Matter added to current law appears in ***bold italics***.  
Matter removed from current law appears ~~[in brackets and struckthrough.]~~  
Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

*In the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand Twenty-Six*

AN ACT including a determination of the best interest of the animal in the definition of foster home.

*Be it Enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court convened:*

1 1 New Paragraph; Foster Home; Definition. Amend RSA 437:1 by inserting after paragraph V  
2 the following new paragraph:

3 VI. "Foster home" means a private residence in New Hampshire associated with and  
4 inspected by a pet vendor licensed under RSA 437:3 that is used to provide temporary physical  
5 custody and care at such private residence for the pet vendor's animals, including pregnant or  
6 lactating animals, when it is deemed to be in the best interests of that animal's health, safety, and  
7 wellbeing as determined by a New Hampshire licensed veterinarian.

8 2 Effective Date. This act shall take effect 60 days after its passage.