Our society is at a critical point in shaping the future of animal welfare. Pets matter deeply to us, and protecting pets is vital to a healthy community. Socially Conscious Sheltering is a framework that allows each of us to understand our role in creating the best outcomes for pets. This concept is based on respectful treatment of animals. It’s about placing every healthy and safe animal that ends up in a shelter or rescue. It’s about transparency and leadership. It’s about thoughtful public policy. It’s about safe communities. We must work together to create the best outcomes for all animals while nurturing the human-animal bond.

Senate Bill 20-164 formally adopts the Socially Conscious Sheltering principles that ensure every healthy and safe cat and dog in a shelter is adopted and the medical and behavioral needs of cats and dogs are appropriately and individually addressed while they are in the care of the shelter. This legislation will lead the nation in creating the best, safest and most humane outcomes for animals across Colorado.

The fundamental goal of a socially conscious animal community is to create best outcomes for all animals. The responsibilities of socially conscious shelters include:

- Ensuring every unwanted or homeless pet has a safe place to go for shelter and care
- Assessing the medical and behavioral needs of homeless animals and ensuring these needs are thoughtfully addressed
- Placing every healthy and safe animal

Support safe and humane outcomes for Colorado’s shelter and rescue cats and dogs!
Support SB 20-164.

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