

# Pound Seizure Laws by State

States that mandate animals be released to research facilities = OK

States that ban pound seizure = CA (only abandoned pets), CT, DC, DE, HI, IL, ME, MD, MA, MN, NH, NJ, NY, PA (banned for dogs only) RI, SC, VT, VA, WV

States that allow individual counties/shelters to decide on pound seizure = AZ, CA (only owner-surrendered), CO, IA, MI, OH, TN, WA (only non-owner surrendered dogs), WI, UT

States with no law on pound seizure = AL, AK, AR, FL, GA, ID, IN, KS, KY, LA, MS, MO, MT, NE, NV, NM, NC, ND, OR, SD, TX, WA, WY

STATE	STATUTE	TRANSFER TO RESEARCH FACILITY	TRANSFER TO USDA CLASS B DEALERS	CURRENT STATUS OF POUND SEIZURE
Arizona	A.R.S. § 11-1013 (2003)	Allows for release of animals for research	No mention of B Dealers	
California	Cal Civ Code § 1834.75 to § 1834.7 (2003)	No release allowed for abandoned animals. Owner-surrendered animals can be turned over to a research facility and shelter must post notice on a sign at the shelter and list on the surrender form.	No mention of B Dealers	Banned county by county
Colorado	C.R.S. 35-42.5-101 (2002)	Allows for release of cats and dogs to research facilities.	No mention of B Dealers	
Connecticut	Conn. Gen. Stat. § 22-332a (2003)	Not allowed	Not allowed	Banned
District of Columbia	Act 17-493 (2008)	Not allowed	Not allowed	Banned
Delaware	3 Del. C. § 8001 (2003)	Not allowed	Not allowed	Banned
Hawaii	HRS § 143-18 (2003)	Not allowed	Not allowed	Banned
Illinois	510 ILCS 5/11 (2003)	Not allowed	Not allowed	Banned
Iowa	Iowa Code § 145B.1 to § 145B.6 (2003)	Allows for release of dogs to research facilities; a licensed dog requires consent of the owner for research	No mention of B Dealers	
Maine	7 M.R.S. § 3913 and § 3919-A and 17 M.R.S. § 1025 (2003)	Not allowed	Not allowed	Banned
Maryland	Md. Criminal Law Code Ann. § 10-617 Md. Comm. Law Code Ann. § 16-701 (2002)	Not allowed	No mention of B Dealers	Banned

Compiled by Allie Phillips, J.D.  
[www.AlliePhillips.com](http://www.AlliePhillips.com)  
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Massachusetts	ALM GL ch. 140, § 151 (2003)	Not allowed	Not allowed	Banned
Michigan	MCLS § 287.388 to § 287.389 (2003)	Allows for release of cats and dogs (except by public auction). Only Gratiot county animal control shelter currently provides live animals to B Dealers but is limited to one animal annually per a resolution from March 2012. The 2009-10 legislative bill (HB 4663) to ban pound seizure by Class B dealers passed the Michigan House but ran out of time in the Senate. Stay tuned for a new bill in 2014.	Allowed	
Minnesota	Minn. Stat. § 35.71 (2002)	<b>HF 2398 repealed the mandatory pound seizure statute and was signed into law on April 27, 2012.</b>	No mention of B Dealers	Banned
Mississippi		<b>House Bill 978 filed on 2-20-12 but died in committee on 3-6-12. The bill proposed a complete ban on pound seizure.</b>		
New Hampshire	RSA 437:22 (2002)	Not allowed	Not allowed	Banned
New Jersey	N.J. Stat. § 4:19-15.16 (2003)	Not allowed	Not allowed	Banned
New York	NY CLS Agr & M § 118 (2003)	Not allowed	Not allowed	Banned
Ohio	ORC Ann. 955.16 (Anderson 2003)	Allows for release of dogs only to a nonprofit research or teaching facility; an owner may stop a dog going to research upon surrender to the shelter	Not allowed	
Oklahoma	4 Okl. St. § 391 to § 400 (2002)	Requires release of animals upon request of a research facility; if the animal is owner-surrendered, the owner can oppose research; <b>Cities may pass ordinances to ban pound seizure</b>	Not allowed	
Pennsylvania	3 P.S. § 459-302 (2003)	Not allowed for dogs	Not allowed for dogs	Banned for dogs
Rhode Island	R.I. Gen. Laws § 4-19-12 (2002)	Not allowed	Not allowed	Banned
South Carolina	S.C. Code Ann. § 47-3-60 (2002)	Not allowed	Not allowed	Banned

Tennessee	Tenn. Code Ann. § 44-17-112 (2001)	Allows for release of cats and dogs (except by public auction)	Allowed	
Utah	Utah Code Ann. § 26-26-3 (2003)	On 3-26-10, HB 107 was signed into law that amends the state mandatory pound seizure law to a discretionary law for shelters.	No mention of B Dealers	
Vermont	13 V.S.A. § 352 (2003)	Not allowed	Not allowed	Banned
Virginia	Va. Code Ann. § 3.1-796.96 to § 3.1-796.96:1 and § 3.1-796.105 (2003)	Not allowed	Not allowed	Banned
West Virginia	W. Va. Code § 19-20-23 (2003)	Not allowed	Not allowed	Banned
Washington	Wis. Stat. § 174.13 (2001)	Allows for the release of unclaimed dogs only to educational institutions. Owner-surrendered dogs are not allowed to be released.		
Wisconsin	Wis. Stat. § 174.13 (2002)	Allows for release of dogs to state-based accredited research facilities; owner-surrendered dogs cannot be sold for research	Not allowed	