HB 2500 Frequently Asked Questions

1. **Question: Does this law apply to me? I am a small, foster based rescue licensed in Illinois or a city run animal control.**

   Answer: Yes. Effective January 1, 2024, the law applies to any entity licensed under the Illinois Animal Welfare Act as an Animal Shelter or Animal Control.

2. **Question: I already offer a discount to veterans. Can I continue to offer this service in place of waiving the fee entirely?**

   Answer: The law states that you shall waive the fee completely if the person meets the requirements outlined in the measure.

3. **Question: Can I still require the applicant to complete an application and process as normal? Am I still permitted to deny an application if they don't meet our adoption requirements?**

   Answer: Yes. The law does not require you to change your application process but requires you to waive the fee for a veteran if they meet your requirements to adopt.

4. **Question: Does the one dog or cat each in a 2-year period apply per veteran or just one animal should have the fee waived total over the 2-year time frame?**

   Answer: The law would apply to each veteran so that each veteran can have the adoption fee waived for one animal every 2 years.

5. **Question: How am I being reimbursed for the money that our organization has spent on vetting and caring for the animal prior to adoption?**

   Answer: The law does not provide funding for the Bureau of Animal Health and Welfare or any other state agency to reimburse for costs.

6. **Question: Who can I speak to about the impacts on my shelter?**

   Answer: Please feel free to speak with your local legislators about this measure or any legislation that may impact your business. We encourage all licensees to stay abreast of legislation throughout the year. You can follow bills via this website.