



News from Albano & Milam 1st Legislative District



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ALBANO/MILAM BILL TO ENSURE CARE FOR PETS DURING EMERGENCIES ADVANCES

(TRENTON) – Legislation Assemblymen Nelson Albano and Matt Milam sponsored to ensure pets are cared for during emergencies was released today by an Assembly panel.

State law only requires state and local officials to address farm and service animals during emergencies, but the bill (A-3052) would expand the requirements to include domestic animals.

“As demonstrated by thousands of pets that were abandoned or displaced after Hurricane Katrina, the sheltering of domesticated animals in the aftermath of a natural disaster is an increasingly important issue,” said Albano (D-Atlantic, Cape May, Cumberland). “We don’t want to see that repeated in New Jersey.”

According to an American Pet Products Manufacturers Association survey, 39 percent of U.S. households own at least one dog and 34 percent own at least one cat.

“We’ve seen many instances in which people were willing to risk their own personal safety than leave a pet behind in a disaster,” said Milam (D-Atlantic, Cape May, Cumberland). “If a disaster ever strikes here, we don’t want to see our residents make such a choice.”

The bill is among the recommendations of the Assembly Coastal New Jersey Evacuation Task Force, which was established to examine and assess the coastal evacuation plans.

The bill was released 5-0 by the Assembly Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee and has been scheduled for a Monday Assembly vote.