



## Association of Shelter Veterinarians

# Use of Shelter Animal Cadavers for Educational Purposes

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The Association of Shelter Veterinarians believes that, while no shelter animal should be euthanized in order to serve an educational purpose, cadavers of shelter animals euthanized for other reasons may be made available for educational purposes, provided their use confers a clear benefit to other animals and/or society.

The use of animal cadavers serves a valuable purpose in training veterinarians, physicians and other professionals. While the need for animal cadavers can be partially met through body donation programs, these sources may not always be sufficient. Animal cadavers must be treated with respect and consideration must be given to replacement, reduction and refinement of animal use whenever feasible.<sup>1</sup>

#### References

1. National Research Council. (2011) Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals. 8<sup>th</sup> Ed. Washington, DC: National Academies Press.