AN ACT to establish a moratorium on the euthanizing of companion animals during the outbreak of novel coronavirus, COVID-19

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

1. Notwithstanding any law, rule or regulation to the contrary, during the outbreak of the novel coronavirus, COVID-19, a moratorium is hereby established on euthanizing any companion animal in the state for a period of one year from the effective date of this act by any animal shelter, pound, duly incorporated humane society, duly incorporated animal protective association, or duly incorporated society for the prevention of cruelty to animals unless a licensed veterinarian certifies in writing that such animal is so maimed, diseased, disabled or infirmed that humane euthanasia is warranted.

2. For the purposes of this act, "companion animal" shall have the same meaning as in subdivision 5 of section 350 of the agriculture and markets law.

§ 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

EXPLANATION--Matter in italics (underscored) is new; matter in brackets [ ] is old law to be omitted.