

BARK Act of 2023

In July of 2023, U.S. Representatives Young Kim (CA-40), Jamie Raskin (MD-08), Dave Joyce (OH-14) and Lucy McBath (GA-07) introduced the Bring Animals Relief and Kibble (BARK) Act (H.R.4750), which aims to reduce food waste and end food shortages at animal shelters by providing donor liability protections to businesses that donate pet food or pet supplies to animal shelters. The BARK act is both bipartisan and bicameral, with Senators Thomas Tillas (R-NC) and Dianne Feinstein (D-CA) sponsoring a corresponding senate bill (S.2370).

This bill would:

- Amend the Bill Emerson Good Samaritan Food Donation Act of 1996 (Emerson Act).
- Extend criminal and civil liability protections under the Emerson Act to people and businesses that make good faith charitable donations of pet food or pet supplies to non-profit organizations or state or local governments.

RESOURCES

Read the full text of S.2370 [here](#) and H.R.4750 [here](#).