

Jomsky, Mark

Subject: RE: Spay / Neuter law

From: Pam Adey [mailto:pamadey@gmail.com]

Sent: Wednesday, July 09, 2014 2:19 PM

To: district1; West, Jana; asvdelacuba@cityofpasadena.net; Madison, Steve; Morales, Margo; Tornek, Terry

Subject: Spay / Neuter law

AKC breeders do not spay or neuter. Yet you will never find an AKC registered dog with pedigree and papers in a shelter or unwanted situation. AKC breeders use AKC microchips which are tracked back to the breeder. We do this so our puppies never end up in a shelter situation. Puppies will always be traced back to us, and returned to us because we, the breeders, want them back.

3/4 of all shelter population is mixed breeds. The other 25% may look purebred but they are, in fact, mixed. Shelter employees are not AKC judges and not breed experts. They are only "guessing" when they deem a mixed breed dog, is a purebred. Many times I have been called to pull a cavalier out of a shelter, only to show up and discover it's a mixed breed cocker.

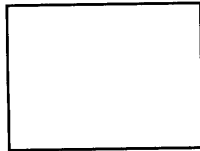
When these spay/neuter laws succeed, all breeders will be put out of business, and all dogs will be spayed and neutered. Then there will be no more dogs. Period. Sincerely,

Pam

--

Pam Adey

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Iraheta, Alba

From: Zia Bossenmeyer <ziasavesdogs@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 09, 2014 2:30 PM
To: Bogaard, Bill; Robinson, Jacque; McAustin, Margaret; Kennedy, John; Masuda, Gene; Gordo, Victor; Madison, Steve; Tornek, Terry; Beck, Michael; Gutierrez, Julie; Mermell, Steve; Bagneris, Michele; cityclerk; Foster, Siobhan; Walsh, Eric
Subject: MSN - mandatory spay neuter

Dear City Council,

I hope by this point you've had the opportunity to read all the resources provided and do investigations yourself about mandatory spay neuter laws and how they are completely ineffective.

MSN laws are well intentioned but only result in more dead dogs not less. Spay neuter laws do not make the public safer.

What makes the public safer is education. Education on keeping your dogs contained within your yards and or on a leash. Keeping your kids supervised when around all dogs. As these are the most typical causes of dog bites or "attacks".

Mr. Madison chooses to target several breeds of dogs all labeled pit bulls. I believe we've done sufficient job of convincing that there is not a "pit bull problem" but a dog problem (when it comes to dog bites).

Want to read countless articles with REAL research and verifiable statistics read about Failed BSL (Breed Specific Legislation) http://btoellner.typepad.com/kcdogblog/failed_bsl/

He chooses to site statistics from a website that was created by a woman who was bit by a dog she identifies as a pit bull and has created a hate campaign. That website has been refuted by many reputable organizations. Here is a link to one article detailing as such <http://btoellner.typepad.com/kcdogblog/2010/03/the-truth-behind-dogsbiteorg.html>

Please realize that if you want a solution to lowering the amount of dogs in the local shelters, mandatory spay neuter is NOT the answer. Free or low-cost spay neuter clinics ARE (Want to read countless articles about failed MSN http://btoellner.typepad.com/kcdogblog/mandatory_spayneuter/)

If you want a safer community, mandatory spay neuter is NOT the answer. Public education campaigns ARE.

Please don't make a mistake that city councils and communities HAVE nation wide and ended up reversing their decision later, only after killing countless dogs in the local shelters.

Thank you
Zia - Animal Advocate

Jomsky, Mark

Subject: RE: Mandatory spay/neuter laws failure everywhere

From: Elizabeth Brinkley [mailto:elizabeth@dantekennels.com]

Sent: Wednesday, July 09, 2014 9:24 AM

To: district1; Morales, Margo; West, Jana; Sullivan, Noreen; De La Cuba, Vannia; Tornek, Terry

Subject: Mandatory spay/neuter laws failure everywhere

Mandatory Spay/Neuter Laws—A Failure Everywhere

Santa Cruz County, California

- 1995 mandatory spay/neuter ordinance
- change in shelter intakes and euthanasia rates are no better than the state average
- animal control costs doubled after passage
- **Animal control costs** “spiraling” out of control, according to a Santa Cruz Sentinel investigation
- Capitola canceled animal services contract with county due to rising costs
- Watsonville threatening to pull out due to rising costs
- licensing compliance dropped significantly

Supporters of AB 1634 frequently claim that Santa Cruz County had a 50+% reduction in shelter intakes after they imposed mandatory spay/neuter in 1995. This is not true. There is no way to take the official shelter data published by California’s Department of Health Services (CDHS), or any subset, and generate this amazing **Big Lie** that AB 1634 supporters have been claiming. Every single data point on their impressive-looking **chart** is a total fabrication.

If you are curious how this compares to the shelter data Santa Cruz County actually submitted to the CDHS, as required by state law, here are the comparisons for **dogs** and for **cats**.

San Mateo County, California

- 1991 mandatory spay/neuter ordinance
- dog deaths in the areas governed by the ordinance, increased 126% and cats 86%, but decreased in parts of the county not governed by the ordinance
- dog licenses declined by 35%

The nation’s first mandatory spay/neuter law was in San Mateo County, CA. It was primarily pushed by the Peninsula Humane Society (PHS). The PHS assessed the San Mateo MSN law to have been “**disappointing**” since it led to increases in shelter killing. As a result, the PHS does not support CA AB 1634. Note that the supporters of AB 1634 do not even mention San Mateo because it is so widely recognized as a failure.

Los Angeles, California

- passed mandatory spay/neuter ordinance in early 2008
- 30% increase in euthanasias in 2008
- 20% increase in impounds in 2008
- reversed many years of progress
- 2000 mandatory spay or pay ordinance
- Decline in licensing compliance since passage of this ordinance
- Animal control budget after passage of the law rose 269%, from \$6.7 million to \$18 million.

- City hired additional animal control officers and bought new trucks and equipment just to enforce the new law

Montgomery County, Maryland

- mandatory spay/neuter law was passed but later repealed as a failure
- 50% decline in licensing compliance while ordinance in effect
- Euthanasia rates declined more slowly than before the ordinance passed

Fort Worth, Texas

- ended its mandatory spay/neuter program
- licensing compliance fell off after passage of the ordinance
- There was a reduction in rabies vaccinations which lead to an increase in rabies in the city

King County, Washington

- 1992 mandatory spay/neuter ordinance
- License compliance decreases since passage of the ordinance.
- Animal control expenses increased 56.8% and revenues only 43.2%.
- In 1990 animal controls were \$1,662,776. By 1997 animal control costs were \$3,087,350.
- Euthanasia rates fell at a slower rate after passage of the ordinance.

King County, WA is commonly held up by supporters as an example of MSN success. These **two articles** illustrate how MSN supporters spin the data.

Aurora, Colorado

- mandatory spay/neuter ordinance
- licensing compliance has dropped dramatically.

Pinellas County, Florida

- breeder licensing since 1992
- animal control budget increased 75% with revenue increasing only 13%.
- shelter intake and euthanasia rates increased after the law took effect

Elizabeth Brinkley, MFA in Theatre,
Dante Kennels, est. 1974
AKC Breeder of Merit
AKC Legislative Liaison, VA Fed Delegate
<http://www.dantekennels.com>

Member - ASSA, CVSSC, CAKC, NAIA

"When injustice becomes law, Resistance becomes duty." T. Jefferson

"One of the greatest delusions of the world is the HOPE that the EVILS of this world are to be CURED BY LEGISLATION." Thomas B. Reed 1886

Jomsky, Mark

Subject: RE: Mandatory Spay/Neuter Laws

From: Martha Bryan [<mailto:executype@earthlink.net>]

Sent: Thursday, July 10, 2014 11:16 AM

To: Morales, Margo

Subject: Mandatory Spay/Neuter Laws

Attention: Councilmember Margaret McAustin, District 2

Dear Ms. McAustin,

It has come to my attention that, on July 14, 2014, the Pasadena City Council is scheduled to conduct a public hearing and vote on a proposed ordinance to require the sterilization of all dogs within the city limits.

The American Kennel Club opposes mandatory spay/neuter laws and arbitrary breeder permits as ineffective because they fail to address the underlying issue of irresponsible ownership. California state law already provides for the sterilization of animals adopted from shelters and mandates that the license fee for intact animals be at least double that of sterilized animals. The additional mandatory sterilization requirements proposed in this ordinance will merely punish those who are responsible owners and breeders, while irresponsible owners who are not complying with current laws are likely to continue their behavior.

Many communities that have implemented mandatory spay/neuter (MSN) policies have found them to be ineffective and expensive. For example, after Dallas, Texas enacted MSN policies in 2008, it experienced a 22 percent increase in animal control costs and an overall decrease in licensing compliance. MSN laws often result in owners either ignore animal control laws entirely, or relinquishing their pets to the public shelter to be cared for at the taxpayers' expense rather than pay for expensive sterilization surgery or breeder permits. According to the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA), some owners also opt to avoid rabies vaccinations and other general veterinary care in order to hide their lack of compliance with MSN laws.

As a very responsible owner of AKC registered dogs, I also oppose mandatory spay/neuter laws. The responsible breeders that I know are dedicated to breed only to improve their breed, and are also very responsible about who those dogs go to. These people are not "puppy mills," and do not overbreed their dogs.

Please represent those of us who believe in the rights of the responsible small breeder, and oppose the mandatory spay/neuter laws.

Very sincerely,

Martha Bryan

Jomsky, Mark

Subject: RE: California Federation of Dog Clubs OPPOSED to mandatory sterilization proposal

From: Geneva Coats [<mailto:genevacoats@aol.com>]

Sent: Wednesday, July 09, 2014 4:13 PM

To: Bogaard, Bill; district1; Morales, Margo; Cruz, Christian (Field Rep); West, Jana; Sullivan, Noreen; De La Cuba, Vannia; Madison, Steve; Tornek, Terry; cfodc@yahogroups.com

Subject: California Federation of Dog Clubs OPPOSED to mandatory sterilization proposal

California Federation of Dog Clubs
PO Box 2341
Lancaster, CA 93539
www.cfodconline.org

Pasadena City Council
Pasadena City Hall
100 North Garfield Avenue
Room S249
Pasadena, CA 91101

July 9, 2014

Request to be included in the official record for City Council meeting of July 14, 2014.

Dear Mayor Bogaard, Vice Mayor Robinson, and City Council Members,

The California Federation of Dog Clubs is an association of thousands of dog owners across the State of California. Formed in 1990, the CFoDC works tirelessly to promote animal welfare, educate the public regarding responsible animal ownership, and protect the rights of responsible animal owners. We administer a disaster relief fund, conduct breed ID workshops for shelter personnel, provide educational information on responsible pet ownership. We also man a toll-free assistance line for animal owners who need advice regarding pet training and behavioral issues. We support animal legislation beneficial to society and to animals. The CFODC is **OPPOSED** to the mandated sterilization of pets, no matter what exemptions are offered. Some of the reasons for our opposition include:

- The ASPCA, the American Kennel Club, the No Kill Advocacy Center, Best Friends Animal Society, the American College of Theriogenologists and the American Veterinary Medical Association are all **OPPOSED** to mandatory sterilization laws because they **create more problems and solve none**.
- Coercive sterilization laws result in **increased shelter intakes and deaths** anywhere they are tried. Fewer people will reclaim their pets due to high costs. Los Angeles has seen a steep rise in shelter intakes since implementing its own mandatory spay/neuter law. So has Memphis, Tennessee.
- Forced sterilization laws have resulted in **increased incidence of RABIES** exposure in some areas, as owners who avoid licensing may also fail to vaccinate for rabies. This creates a dire risk to human health. With recent instances of rabid wildlife in southern California, we should not do anything that would jeopardize public cooperation with rabies vaccination programs. Fort Worth TX repealed their spay and neuter law due to increased cases of rabies exposure, which are not just hazardous to health but also extremely expensive to local health departments.

- Existing leash and confinement laws should be enforced. **Sterilization does NOT prevent roaming.**
- The 2013 Annual report published by the Pasadena Humane Society claims an adoption rate of 96% for dogs and 98% for nonferal cats. **There is no “overpopulation crisis” and even if there was, there is no evidence to support the assertion that shelter intakes are caused by animals bred locally or that shelter intake numbers are reduced by sterilization mandates.**
- Mandated surgery **disproportionately affects the elderly on fixed incomes and low-income families.** These are the very groups who derive the most psychosocial benefits from pet ownership. They should be encouraged rather than discouraged from adopting pets.
- Mandatory sterilization is **costly to enforce. Revenues will drop**, as owners will increasingly avoid licensing and forced surgery on their pets. There will be even LESS money for the needed enforcement.
- Dogs are being smuggled in by the thousands now from Mexico and imported from other countries by rescue groups, to meet the demand for pets. Mandatory sterilization creates a black market for dogs and puppies. Imported pets often bring rabies and parasites along with them.
- Feral cats comprise a significant proportion of shelter intakes, and **sterilization mandates do not help to reduce numbers of feral cats.** Good Samaritans caring for feral cats are often punished for doing so when sterilization laws are implemented.
- Many studies show that dogs who are neutered more health and behavioral problems than dogs who are left intact. The latest study published in the journal *Applied Animal Behavior Science* and conducted by the University of Bristol's School of Veterinary Science, found **no difference in aggression** between dogs who were intact and dogs who were neutered.
- In addition, this study found that dogs obtained from shelters and rescues were 1.8-2.6 times more likely to exhibit aggression than dogs obtained directly from breeders.

We are opposed to mandatory spay and neuter laws that would increase shelter intakes and deaths, increase the risk of rabies exposure cases, and increase the risk of aggression, while simultaneously decreasing local sources of well-bred pets.

We urge you to REJECT any mandatory sterilization ordinances and instead focus on measures proven to work over the past decades...proactive, friendly and non-coercive public education campaigns, trap/neuter and release programs for feral cats, and low-cost, government subsidized **voluntary** sterilization clinics.

Please contact us if we can be of any further assistance.

Geneva Coats, R.N.
Secretary, California Federation of Dog Clubs
Genevacoats@aol.com

CC: Bill Bogaard, Jaque Robinson, Margaret McAustin, John J. Kennedy, Gene Masuda, Victor Gordo, Steve Madison, Terry Tornek

The Dark Side of Mandatory Legislation:
<http://www.nokilladvocacycenter.org/wp-content/uploads/2011/10/mandatorylaws.pdf>

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locally or that shelter intake numbers are reduced by sterilization mandates.

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Geneva Coats, R.N.
Secretary, California Federation of Dog Clubs
Genevacoats@aol.com

CC: Bill Bogaard, Jaque Robinson, Margaret McAustin, John J. Kennedy, Gene Masuda, Victor Gordo, Steve Madison, Terry Tornek

Jomsky, Mark

To: Morales, Margo
Subject: RE: Opposition to Mandatory Spay/Neutering Laws

From: Nancy Fenoglio [<mailto:nfenoglio@earthlink.net>]

Sent: Wednesday, July 09, 2014 11:33 AM

To: district1; Morales, Margo; West, Jana; Sullivan, Noreen; De La Cuba, Vannia; Madison, Steve; Tornek, Terry

Subject: Opposition to Mandatory Spay/Neutering Laws

It is our understanding that you will be conducting a public hearing and vote on a proposed ordinance to require the sterilization of all dogs within Pasadena City limits. As President of the Irish Setter Club of Southern California, please consider this email our voice of opposition to any and all mandatory spay/neuter policies. I have attached a letter expressing our views, as well as supporting documentation from the American Kennel Club and an article on the negative health effects of spaying/neutering. Other health studies can be forwarded, if you wish more information.

Thank you for considering our views and please make them part of public record.

Nancy Fenoglio
President
Irish Setter Club of Southern California



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MANDATORY SPAY/NEUTER LAWS

BACKGROUND:

Mandatory spay/neuter laws are usually considered by state and local governments in response to animal control concerns in the community. Proponents believe that mandatory spay/neuter laws will reduce the number of animals at the local shelters and strays roaming in neighborhoods. However, these laws have not proven an effective solution to animal control concerns and punish responsible breeders.

POINTS TO CONSIDER:

- **MANDATORY SPAY/NEUTER LAWS ARE INEFFECTIVE**
Mandatory spay/neuter laws have not proven effective in reducing shelter populations. In fact, some shelters have seen an increase as owners choose to leave their dogs at a shelter if they are unable to pay the costs associated with having their dog spayed or neutered. Moreover, many national research organizations have reported that the majority of unwanted dogs in the United States come from irresponsible owners who are unwilling to train, socialize, or care for their dogs. Imposing a mandatory spay/neuter law will not resolve the issue of irresponsible ownership.
- **MANDATORY SPAY/NEUTER LAWS ARE DIFFICULT TO ENFORCE**
Mandatory spay/neuter laws are extremely difficult to enforce and can be evaded by irresponsible animal owners. Mandatory spay/neuter laws often result in a decrease in the number of dogs licensed, because some individuals choose to not license their animals in order to avoid spaying and neutering their pets.
- **MANDATORY SPAY/NEUTER LAWS ARE COSTLY TO THE COMMUNITY**
Mandatory spay/neuter laws greatly increase the work load of animal control offices, many of which are already strained financially. Animal control offices also find they are euthanizing more animals at the taxpayer's expense, because some owners choose to leave their animals at the shelter rather than complying with the law. A mandatory spay/neuter law also communicates the message that the municipality is not "dog friendly" and sends a strong message that AKC events, which generate a significant amount of revenue for the local economy, are not welcome in the community.
- **MANDATORY SPAY/NEUTER LAWS ARE UNFAIR TO RESPONSIBLE DOG OWNERS**
Mandatory spay/neuter laws target all dog owners, regardless of their level of responsibility or the behavior of their animals. The AKC believes responsible owners have a right to use their own discretion in determining whether to alter their animals. In addition, these laws would restrict the rights of numerous responsible breeders who breed and raise purebred dogs for the purpose of showing. These breeders make a serious commitment to their animals and to ensuring the future health, welfare and breed type of their individual breeds. The AKC believes the decision to spay/neuter is best left to responsible owners in consultation with their veterinarian.

A BETTER SOLUTION IS AVAILABLE

Rather than impose a mandatory spay/neuter law on all dog owners, governments should instead focus on enforcing effective animal control laws and increasing public education efforts. Strongly enforced regulations such as leash laws would prevent irresponsible owners from allowing their pets to run loose, which can lead to accidental breeding. A strong public education campaign teaches community residents how to properly care for their pets and the importance of being a responsible pet owner. The American Kennel Club, as well as many local dog clubs, can assist communities in developing effective animal control laws and public education programs that address the issue of irresponsible ownership while still protecting the rights of responsible owners and breeders.



Issue Analysis: Why Mandatory Spay/Neuter Laws are Ineffective

No dog should ever go unloved or unwanted. Stories of dogs being relinquished to shelters break the hearts of every dog lover.

These issues are the result of a variety of causes. National research organizations have reported that the majority of unwanted dogs in the United States come from owners who are unable or unwilling to train, socialize, and care for their dogs.

As part of encouraging responsible dog ownership, the American Kennel Club (AKC) urges pet owners to spay and neuter their dogs if they do not want to participate in AKC dog shows or performance events or use them in a responsible breeding program. The AKC supports public education programs that teach future pet-buyers and help current

mandatory sterilization policies.

Identifying the Problem

Although MSN may sound like a logical solution to the problem of unwanted dogs, they only address a symptom of the problem. A truly effective solution will require addressing this larger issue.

National studies and anecdotal experiences of shelters across the country demonstrate that economics also plays a significant role in animal relinquishment. Unemployment, tighter budgets, and other monetary concerns including unexpected relocation all contribute to families to giving up pets.

As communities recognize that there are irresponsible dog owners who do not properly train their dogs and who allow

basic animal control laws they are already tasked with enforcing.

Many communities that enact MSN laws find that enforcement can be expensive. A mandatory spay/neuter law enacted in Dallas, Texas, in 2008 resulted in a 22 percent increase in animal control expenditures, as well as an overall decrease in licensing projected to reduce revenue by \$400,000. The City of Santa Cruz, California, experienced a 56% cost increase over the first 12 years of implementation. The City of Los Angeles' budget ballooned from \$6.7 million to \$18 million following implementation. Similar increases in animal control costs following the establishment of mandatory spay/neuter laws have been experienced in communities

“Nearly one in every two families in the United States has a dog, generating a significant demand for well-bred puppies.”



BULLDOG - ISABELLE FRANCAIS FOR AKC

dog owners understand the great responsibility that comes with dog ownership.

Some policymakers and groups assert that the solution is mandatory spay/neuter (MSN) laws. The AKC disagrees. Unlike voluntary programs, mandatory spay/neuter laws have proven to be ineffective. Numerous studies have found they result in significant cost increases and many other unintended consequences for responsible dog owners, local shelters, and the community at large – *without addressing the real underlying issue of irresponsible dog ownership.*

For these reasons, the American Kennel Club is joined by numerous organizations including the American Veterinary Medical Association, the National Animal Interest Alliance, and the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals in opposing

their dogs to roam or otherwise create a nuisance, it becomes increasingly evident that most problems stem from owner irresponsibility. Mandatory spay/neuter laws will not address these problems; however, they will punish law-abiding citizens who wish to keep an intact animal, while those who already neglect their responsibilities will likely continue that behavior.

Unintended Consequences

Mandatory spay/neuter laws also have a tendency to create problems for communities because they are very difficult to enforce and can be easily evaded by avoiding dog licensing.

MSN laws also greatly increase the workload for animal control officers, who must now also verify the sterilization of residents' pets in addition to the

throughout the country from Colorado to North Carolina to Washington.

Mandatory spay/neuter policies prove expensive for the public as well. When these laws are established, many cities find that their publicly-funded low-cost spay/neuter programs cannot meet the demand, which forces dog owners to pay full price for the procedure. This can be a huge financial burden for low-income dog owners, who may ultimately be forced to choose between harboring an illegal unsterilized dog and turning it over to a shelter because they cannot afford the procedure.

Unintended broader public health and safety consequences should also be considered. The American Veterinary Medical Association's "Dog and Cat Population Control" policy notes that the mandatory nature of these laws may

Continued on next page

result in pet owners avoiding rabies vaccinations and other general veterinary care in order to hide their lack of compliance.

Another disturbing trend arises when these laws prevent responsible breeders from being able to breed and raise quality family pets. Nearly one out of every two families in the United States has a dog. This generates a significant demand for well-bred puppies.

Responsible breeders are committed to raising healthy purebred dogs and provide the opportunity for local residents to purchase a quality dog from an expert in the breed who is also knowledgeable about the needs, temperament, and background of the puppy offered for sale. These breeders help potential new owners understand the breed and ensure that a prospective buyer is a good lifestyle fit with the new puppy.

If responsible breeders are forced out of business, those who wish to purchase a purebred dog are forced to seek other avenues. This may include buying puppies over the Internet, where the dogs may be imported from countries with fewer health and safety standards than the United States. Anecdotal evidence has shown a significant increase in the number of dogs being transported into the country, with little to no veterinary oversight and care before the dogs are given to the new owners. A number of these dogs have become seriously ill with diseases such as rabies that are dangerous to both the dog and humans.

Why Exemptions Aren't Enough

Sometimes, instead of an outright spay/neuter mandate, lawmakers will opt to enact laws with stricter regulations on those who choose to not sterilize their dogs. Intact animal permits and differential licensing require those who choose not to sterilize their dogs to obtain a license that is often significantly more expensive than those for sterilized dogs. Some communities do not require licenses unless a dog is intact. Other policies provide exemptions for owners whose dogs are listed with a nationally-recognized registry.

These policies, including exemptions,

punish responsible dog owners simply because they choose to own an intact dog. Responsible dog breeders and owners have a right to own an intact dog if they so choose without being subject to regulations beyond those of other dog owners.



SOFT COATED WHEATEN TERRIER- MARY BLOOM © AKC

“Public education about responsible dog ownership improves public safety, reduces economic burdens on a community, and preserves the rights of dog owners – all while helping dog owners learn how to care for their pets.”

The AKC encourages dog owners to sterilize their pets unless they wish to participate in responsible breeding programs, performance events, or AKC conformation dog shows. As conformation shows are ultimately designed to judge the quality of breeding stock, all dogs entered into these events must be intact. Mandatory spay/neuter defeats the whole purpose of traditional dog shows!

Some laws offer exemptions to MSN policies for “show dogs”. However, this exemption misses the point that spaying/neutering should be an individual decision made by an owner, not forced by the state. It is also very difficult to prove whether or not a dog is being kept for exhibition. Some mandatory spay/neuter schemes require a dog to be shown at least once a year in order to be exempted from the sterilization policies, but not all breeders show all their dogs every year. In addition, many breeders choose to breed their female show dogs after they have finished showing them to their championships. Other owners may choose to see how a dog develops before making a decision about whether to show

the dog. There are many valid reasons for an exhibitor not to show a dog every year, and this choice should be respected.

What's the Solution?

Targeting the issue of irresponsible ownership is the best solution for addressing dog-related issues in a community. This begins with gathering data about the extent and nature of a possible problem in a community. Does the community have reliable statistics on unowned or unwanted animal populations? Does the community currently have comprehensive animal control statutes to address at-large dogs, nuisance dogs, and stray animals? If so, how are they enforced?

Does enforcement include appropriate fines and penalties? Does the community need additional support to enforce these laws? If existing laws are not being followed or enforced, then adding more laws will not improve the situation. Communities may also want to consider encouraging private organizations to provide/subsidize low-cost

spay/neuter clinics to help give low-income individuals the opportunity to sterilize their dogs if they wish.

One of the most effective ways to ensure compliance is through strong public education programs. These programs cover the basics of responsible dog ownership and local dog laws. The American Kennel Club has a wealth of materials to help shelters, community organizations, schools, and other public organizations educate the public about responsible dog ownership. The AKC also provides resources through thousands of local kennel clubs, located in all 50 states, who are willing to assist local leaders in designing and implementing positive canine education programs.

Addressing irresponsible dog ownership through strict enforcement of animal control laws and strong public education programs are effective and cost-efficient ways to address animal control issues. Public education about responsible dog ownership improves public safety, reduces economic burdens on a community, and preserves the rights of responsible caring dog owners – all while helping dog owners learn how to care for their pets.

Jomsky, Mark

From: Morales, Margo
Sent: Wednesday, July 09, 2014 3:24 PM
To: McAustin, Margaret; Jomsky, Mark
Subject: opposed to spay/neuter

Estelle Dahl called to voice her opposition to a mandatory spay/neuter ordinance. She said her dog has a health condition that would not allow it to undergo surgery. She said the ordinance should be more nuanced. She also feels that the ordinance will cause our shelter population to rise due to risks associated with spaying. She said females often become incontinent and owners give them up thinking they're bad dogs.

No address or phone number was provided.

*Margo Morales
District 2 Field Representative
(626) 744-4742
(626) 744-3814 fax
To Join Our Mailing list go to www.cityofpasadena.net/district2*



pasadena humane society & spca
compassion and care for all animals

14 JUL 10 09:48 PM
CITY CLERK

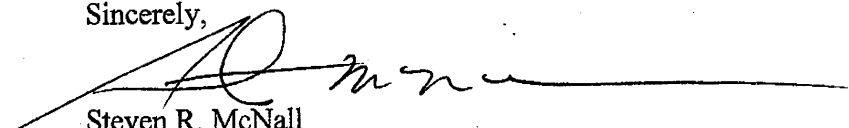
July 10, 2014

Dear Mayor Bogaard and Members of City Council,

The Pasadena Humane Society & SPCA is in support of the proposed ordinance requiring the sterilization of all dogs and cats. As your animal services provider we experience the problem of overpopulation first hand; this spay and neuter ordinance is an additional way to educate the residents of Pasadena to the importance of responsible animal care.

In order to achieve our goal of a more humane community it is vitally important that the City and Pasadena Humane Society & SPCA work together. We both desire a safe environment for the residents and a reduction in the unwanted animal population.

Sincerely,


Steven R. McNall
President/CEO

Jomsky, Mark

Subject: RE: Pasadena Mandatory Spay/Neuter law

From: Schuerger, Bob [<mailto:bschuerger@hp.com>]

Sent: Wednesday, July 09, 2014 7:41 AM

To: district1; Morales, Margo; West, Jana; Sullivan, Noreen; De La Cuba, Vannia; Madison, Steve; Tornek, Terry

Subject: Pasadena Mandatory Spay/Neuter law

As you can see from my address below, I live in Los Angeles which has already adopted this onerous law. I consider this law a very personal attack on my civil liberties. The City of Los Angeles and the State of California both believe they have the right to determine whether or not MY PETS are sterilized because I am much too irresponsible to decide for myself.

1. The most obvious FACT of LIFE that most legislatures seem TOTALLY IGNORANT OF is that **BY DEFINITION A CRIMINAL IS ONE WHO DOES NOT FOLLOW THE LAW**. If a CRIMINAL does not follow the law anyway, HOW CAN PASSING A NEW LAW POSSIBLY SOLVE A PROBLEM IN AN AREA WHERE THE EXISTING LAWS ARE NOT BEING FOLLOWED? Passing new legislation ALWAYS makes life more complex (and usually more difficult) for the LAW ABIDING CITIZENS.
 - a. The problem of animal control exists because many people do not follow the EXISTING LAWS. Passing a new law that WILL BE VERY UNPOPULAR WITH THE SILENT MAJORITY just ensures MORE PEOPLE WILL START IGNORING THE LAW.
 - b. How many people in LA do you think pay the \$500 for a breeder's fee and then \$100 for the license EACH YEAR instead of just not getting the pet a license in the first place? The \$100 a year license fee is plenty of encouragement for the people who do not feel strongly one way or the other about this issue to go ahead and get the pet sterilized.
 - c. "Puppy farms" have NOTHING to do with this issue. They would either be breeders or not be following the laws anyway. THIS LAW IS ALL ABOUT ENFORCING THE CITIZEN IN THE STREET TO STERILIZE HIS/HER PET.
2. The Constitution of the United States of America (at least what's left of it) grants SPECIFIC RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES TO LEGISLATURES. ANYTHING NOT SPECIFIED IS A RIGHT RETAINED BY THE PEOPLE. A man's house is his castle. GET OUT OF MY HOUSE. If my pets are running loose and causing problems IN THE STREETS, ONLY THEN do you have the right to do something about it.

Robert Schuerger
3311 La Clede Ave.
Los Angeles, CA 90039

Jomsky, Mark

Subject: RE: Pasadena Mandatory Spaying and Neutering Legislation

From: Dawn Secord [<mailto:fff@linkline.com>]
Sent: Wednesday, July 09, 2014 9:49 AM
To: Morales, Margo
Subject: Pasadena Mandatory Spaying and Neutering Legislation

Dear Councilmember McAustin,

I am a constituent who is very concerned about animal legislation, particularly requiring of spaying and neutering pets. I support programs that encourage spaying and neutering of pets, but I oppose mandating it.

The proponents of mandatory sterilization laws claim that they can save taxpayers money, but experience shows that just the opposite is true. Animal control costs doubled in Santa Cruz County after they passed a mandatory spay/neuter ordinance. Mandatory legislation requiring spaying and neutering of animals would increase animal control costs that the taxpayers must pay.

California's severe recession has left millions of families struggling to pay the mortgage and put food on the table. Many pet owners will be forced to relinquish their pets to shelters as they can neither afford the sterilization surgery mandated by your proposed legislation, nor the fines imposed for this failure.

The California Department of Finance opposes mandatory spay / neuter legislation because it would increase costs to the state's taxpayers. This would be fallout from the increase in euthanasias in California's animal shelters if such a law were enacted.

Experience across the country is that mandatory spay/neuter legislation, like what the City of Pasadena is proposing, are a failure. Dog deaths in the parts of San Mateo County covered by a mandatory sterilization ordinance increased by 126%, cat deaths increased by 86%, while both decreased in the city of San Mateo which was not covered by the ordinance.

I do participate in Pasadena in dog shows and dog events. Any cities that pass legislation mandating spaying and neutering will be cities my dogs will not be entering shows in. You will be losing tax dollars from the events I, and many dog show folks, will no longer be entering.

Please take a moment to read the attached file which discusses the negative health risks to animals due to spaying and neutering.

I hope I can count on you to oppose mandatory spaying and neutering.

Sincerely,

Dawn Secord
909-393-1210

We need to bring to light the truths behind spaying and neutering your pets. The big push to spay and neuter our pets, in particular before puberty, was brought about as a response to the explosion of stray animals without homes. These strays ultimately have to be euthanized at shelters so it was a valiant effort to address a real problem.



The suggestion that dogs and cats should be spayed and neutered over time has evolved into the suggestion that they should be spayed and neutered because it is healthier. We at Angryvet disagree. There is a lot of evidence to support the logical claim that your pets may actually be healthier if left intact.

Think rationally. How would removing a child's reproductive organs before puberty affect their growth, maturation, and development? Puberty and sexual maturation is imperative for bone, brain and organ development. The same is true for your dogs and cats.

The go to argument that veterinarians tell their clients is that neutering eliminates testicular cancer and prostatitis. Spaying eliminates breast, ovarian and uterine cancer. What they don't tell people is that at least one study shows that intact animals live LONGER. Spaying and neutering not only potentially shortens the lifespan but also has been correlated with various illnesses. Obesity (sometimes not even responsive to extreme calorie restriction), osteoarthritis, Anterior Cruciate Rupture, diabetes, hypothyroidism, prostatic cancer, hemangiosarcoma, osteosarcoma, urinary incontinence, urinary tract infection, juvenile vulva are just a few conditions that are overly represented in spayed and neutered pets. We will discuss some of these correlations and published findings in our blogs.

In our opinion the healthiest pet is one that keeps its reproductive tract. This does pose challenges. Male cats mark and spray. It can be burdensome to have a non-spayed female dog bleeding in the house. Female cats, when they are in heat, will drive you nuts! Male dogs can become dog aggressive and mark their territory or the house.

The best compromise, if any of these things is too much to deal with, would be to spay and neuter at a minimum of one year if not two years of age. Allow your pet to reach full maturation and reach adulthood before considering surgery. We have seen shelters that spay and neuter at 6 weeks of age! Clearly, this aggressive a surgery at such an early stage of development is not warranted.

Understand that there are options. Educate yourself and take the approach that best suits you and your pet. Use this website (and others) as a resource to ask and answer questions.

- See more at: <http://www.angryvet.com/spaying-and-neutering/#sthash.MTO3LS3e.dpuf>

Jomsky, Mark

Subject: RE: Opposition to Mandatory Spay/Neuter Ordinance - July 14, 2014 Agenda Item

From: Melody [<mailto:mediastarr@yahoo.com>]

Sent: Thursday, July 10, 2014 12:19 AM

To: Morales, Margo

Subject: Opposition to Mandatory Spay/Neuter Ordinance - July 14, 2014 Agenda Item

I strongly oppose even the mere consideration of mandatory sterilization of all dogs Ordinance that is on the voting agenda of your July 14th meeting. I would like to provide you with the point of view of the American Kennel Club:

"The American Kennel Club opposes mandatory spay/neuter laws and arbitrary breeder permits as ineffective because they fail to address the underlying issue of irresponsible ownership. California state law already provides for the sterilization of animals adopted from shelters and mandates that the license fee for intact animals be at least double that of sterilized animals. The additional mandatory sterilization requirements proposed in this ordinance will merely punish those who are responsible owners and breeders, while irresponsible owners who are not complying with current laws are likely to continue their behavior.

Many communities that have implemented mandatory spay/neuter (MSN) policies have found them to be ineffective and expensive. For example, after Dallas, Texas enacted MSN policies in 2008, it experienced a 22 percent increase in animal control costs and an overall decrease in licensing compliance. MSN laws often result in owners either ignore animal control laws entirely, or relinquishing their pets to the public shelter to be cared for at the taxpayers' expense rather than pay for expensive sterilization surgery or breeder permits. According to the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA), some owners also opt to avoid rabies vaccinations and other general veterinary care in order to hide their lack of compliance with MSN laws"

Additionally, there have been numerous studies done, with many different dog breeds, about the effect of neutering and an increased risk of joint disorders and various cancers. All studies showed an increased risk, to the extent of 2 fold in at least 1 study, of hip dysplasia (HD), cranial cruciate ligament tear (CCL), lymphosarcoma (LSA), hemangiosarcoma (HSA), and mast cell tumor (MCT) in neutered or spayed dogs.

I believe the real issue here is responsible dog ownership and that is what should be addressed, not a carte-blanche ruling that all dogs need to be sterilized if they are not owned by a licensed breeder.

Thank you for taking my views into consideration; I trust that you will vote against this ordinance.

Melody Starr