



Testimony

of the

New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene

before the

New York City Council Committee on Health

on

Int. 599-2014: Posting of information and warnings regarding anabolic steroids and human growth hormone in locker rooms.

and

T-2015 – 2857: Technical changes to certain pet shop requirements, as added by local laws 5 and 7 for the year 2015.

and

T 2015 – 2868: Technical changes to certain pet shop requirements, as added by local laws 6 and 8 for the year 2015.

April 21, 2015
Council Chambers – City Hall
New York City

Good morning Chairman Johnson and members of the Health Committee. On behalf of Commissioner Bassett, thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on: Introduction 599, legislation that would require the posting of information and warnings regarding anabolic steroids and human growth hormone in locker rooms; in addition, we appreciate the opportunity to comment on T 2015-2857 and T 2015-2868, bills that make technical changes to the pet shop-related legislation enacted earlier this year. This testimony will first address the legislation requiring warnings about steroids, and then the revisions to the existing pet shop law.

The bill under consideration today would require posting of information and warnings regarding anabolic steroids and human growth hormone in school locker rooms and other locations which encourage physical fitness such as: racquet ball facilities, platform tennis and health clubs; figure salons; gymnasiums; martial arts and self-defense schools; and any other similar entity offering physical training.

Anabolic steroids have significant adverse consequences. Although they have limited medical use for serious medical conditions such as hormone insufficiencies and cancer, some athletes – both professional and amateur - use these drugs illicitly in an attempt to enhance performance or improve their physical appearance. They increase muscle growth and may reduce recovery time from injury. Their use can lead to a number of adverse health effects. These include increasing risk of heart attack, liver tumors, infertility. In adolescents who are still growing, anabolic steroid use can cause premature cessation of growth, resulting in short stature. Anabolic steroids can also lead to a number of behavioral and psychiatric problems. These range from mood swings, depression and irritability and may become quite severe, including rank aggression, paranoia, and delusional thinking.

Human growth hormone (or HGH) can also be used legally to stimulate cell reproduction and build muscle mass. HGH is a synthetic form of growth hormone that is approved by the federal Food and Drug Administration to treat growth disorders and adult growth hormone deficiency. It also has side effects including joint pain, muscle weakness, diabetes, and hypertension.

The Department acknowledges the health risks associated with these substances. We are concerned, however, about the requirements placed on our agency in this legislation. Specifically, the Department does not enter or regulate many of these facilities which would have to post warning posters, nor do we have the staff and financial resources to enforce and assess penalties for failure to post these signs. We would welcome, however, further

conversation with Council about how to best educate New Yorkers regarding the risks of anabolic steroids and human growth hormone.

The Department is also charged with enforcing the pet shop legislation under consideration today. We want to thank the Council for the opportunity to have worked on and improved on these bills together; the Administration supports both of these pieces of legislation.

The changes being proposed make it easier for pet shops to understand the law, and easier for the City to enforce. The Department appreciates the changes made; in particular, the revised legislation corrects a drafting error that could have, in some cases, suggested a dog or cat should be micro-chipped twice.

Thank you again for the opportunity to testify.



Mayor's Alliance for NYC's Animals®

Jane Hoffman, President

Mayor's Alliance for NYC's Animals

*Hearing before the New York City Council's
Committee on Health*

*A Local Law to amend the administrative code of the city of New York, in
relation to technical changes to certain pet shop requirements, as added by
local laws 5 and 7 for the year 2015*

&

*A Local Law to amend the administrative code of the city of New York, in
relation to technical changes to certain pet shop requirements, as added by
local laws 6 and 8 for the year 2015*

Tuesday, April 21, 2015

My name is Jane Hoffman and I am the President of the Mayor's Alliance for NYC's Animals. I'd like to thank Chairman Johnson, Council Member Crowley, and Members of the Committee on Health for the opportunity to comment today on two Local Laws to amend the administrative code of the city of New York, in relation to technical changes to certain pet shop requirements, as added by local laws 5 and 7 and 6 and 8 for the year 2015.

We would like to thank the City Council for clarifying the definition of "animal rescue group" and making a distinction between adoptions facilitated by not-for-profit entities and sales by for-profit businesses. The new definition makes it clear that an animal rescue group is a duly incorporated not-for-profit organization that accepts homeless, lost, stray, abandoned, seized, surrendered or unwanted animals from an animal shelter or other place and attempts to find homes for, and promote adoption of, such animals by the general public. We also thank the City Council for clarifying the definition of animal rescue group throughout the bill.

In 2000, the New York City Council passed a bill that was intended to require animal shelters and pet stores to spay and neuter cats and dogs prior to adoption or sale. Unfortunately, the pet store lobby was able to get an injunction that prohibited the New York City Council from regulating New York City pet stores. However, in January 2014, Governor Cuomo signed a bill that allowed municipalities to regulate pet stores within their jurisdiction. Sadly, if that injunction had not been granted, we would be so much further along in saving the lives of cats and dogs in New York City. This is why we strongly supported the earlier bills requiring spay and neuter of dogs and cats sold in pet stores.

Because of the efforts of the animal shelter and rescue community, we have increased the live release rate in New York City by increasing adoptions. The other part of the equation, however, is to increase spay/neuter. The Alliance requires all animals at our adoption events to be spayed or neutered prior to adoption. If left up to adopters to have

their pets spayed or neutered, sadly, many people who adopt do not follow through and get their pet spayed or neutered.

For this reason, we support spay/neuter by all entities that either adopt or sell cats or dogs to the public. Pediatric spay/neuter is especially crucial with regard to pet stores because they supply consumers with large numbers of puppies. Requiring pet stores to have these puppies spayed or neutered at two months and two pounds will help reduce the number of unwanted dogs entering the city's shelters.

Pediatric spay/neuter surgeries have been performed successfully and safely by veterinarians, including those at the ASPCA, for 20 years. Given the tremendous volume of spay/neuter surgeries performed by the ASPCA for the cats and dogs of the 150 Alliance Participating Organizations, if the procedure posed a risk to the cats and dogs, we would certainly be hearing about it – and we are not. Aside from the health benefits of spaying or neutering cats and dogs at an early age, the greatest value this practice provides is the elimination of any chance of unwanted pregnancy and consequently, the reduction of animal homelessness – that is to say, fewer animals ending up in shelters facing possible euthanasia.

Thank you.



THE AMERICAN SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS

Michelle Villagomez
New York City Legislative Director

AMERICAN SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY
TO ANIMALS

*Hearing before the New York City Council's Committee on Health on amending
the administrative code of the city of New York, in relation to technical changes to
certain pet shop requirements, as added by local laws 5, 6, 7 and 8 for the year
2015*

April 21, 2015

Statement by Michelle Villagomez
NYC Legislative Director
American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals
Testimony before the New York City Council Committee on Health

Good afternoon. I am Michelle Villagomez, New York City Legislative Director for the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (ASPCA). On behalf of the ASPCA and its nearly 70,000 New York City supporters I would like to thank Chairman Johnson, and the Health Committee for the opportunity to testify today in support of the technical changes to certain pet shop requirements, as added by local laws 5, 6, 7, and 8 for the year 2015 and to clarify our position on for the importance of spay/neuter.

The ASPCA supported the passage of these critical laws whose measures were designed to prevent pet stores in New York City from obtaining puppies from some of the most unscrupulous puppy breeders in the nation. Requiring pet stores to disclose information to customers about the origins of the animals they sell, as well as to spay/neuter and microchip dogs and cats (and license dogs) before selling them is sound public policy. This multi-pronged approach will protect animals from exploitation and suffering and help arm consumers with the information they need to make smart choices about bringing new pets into their homes. We support the technical changes to the bills and believe that they will make compliance easier.

I would like to clarify the ASPCA's position on mandatory spay/neuter. At past hearings we saw many falsely make the claim that our policy against mandatory spay/neuter applied to animals sold at pet stores. Although the ASPCA does not support laws that mandate spay/neuter of all owned animals within a community, the ASPCA strongly supports spay/neuter as an effective means to reduce shelter intake. In particular the ASPCA supports voluntary, affordable, accessible spay/neuter programs for owned pets, Trap-Neuter-Return (TNR) programs for feral cats and the mandatory sterilization of shelter animals and dogs and cats prior to sale by pet stores.

The ASPCA supports programs that provide incentives to the public to spay or neuter their companion animals. We offer low-cost spay/neuter surgery via five fully-equipped mobile

veterinary clinics. Our mission is to put an end to the tragic euthanasia of adoptable animals within New York City's five boroughs by addressing the animal crisis at its source- in the heart of the city's local communities. We recognize that many of the most serious overpopulation and animal health crises arise in neighborhoods with limited access to veterinary care; the ASPCA brings these services directly to the community.

The ASPCA has long worked with the City to support programs that encourage spay, neuter and dog licensing. Spaying and neutering is the best way to address the pet overpopulation problem and reduce the number of homeless animals entering our shelter system. The Shelters and Sterilization Act of 2000 already required shelters and pet stores to sterilize all dogs and cats prior to sale. We would like to thank the Council for recognizing the importance of spay/neuter and passing legislation which would allow the City to honor a decades old policy commitment.

Thank you.



THE AMERICAN SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS®

Stephanie Janeczko DVM, MS,DABPV
Senior Director, Shelter Medical Programs
Shelter Research and Development

AMERICAN SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY
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April 21, 2015

Statement by Stephanie Janeczko, DVM, MS, DABVP (canine/feline)
Senior Director of Shelter Medical Programs, Research and Development
American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals
Testimony before the New York City Council Committee on Health

My name is Dr. Stephanie Janeczko. I am the Senior Director of Shelter Medical Programs at the ASPCA and have worked in this position for nearly 4 years. I help develop educational materials on shelter medicine topics and consult with animal welfare organizations across the country to help them improve their medical programs. I am also a current board member and the immediate past president of the Association of Shelter Veterinarians. I was trained at Cornell. In addition to my veterinary degree, I also completed a residency in shelter medicine, hold a master's degree in epidemiology, and am board certified in canine and feline practice by the American Board of Veterinary Practitioners

On behalf of the ASPCA, I am here to testify in support of pediatric or early-age spay/neuter for cats and dogs as young as 6 weeks of age. These procedures are widely recognized to be safe and humane for individual animals and are an effective means of addressing the significant problem of companion animal overpopulation. Euthanasia of unwanted, homeless pets remains the single largest cause of death for dogs and cats in this country. The need to reduce this risk for each individual animal should not be understated.

Pediatric procedures are performed before the onset of estrus. This is not always the case with spay/neuter performed at the traditional age of 6 months. This slight change in timing is crucial in reducing the risk of pregnancy as well as maximizing some of the health benefits for the individual animal, such as a reduction in mammary gland cancer in cats. Although critics of pediatric spay/neuter may argue that surgery should be delayed until the animal is six months of age or even older, there is insufficient evidence in the scientific literature to support a claim that surgery at this later age is superior. Numerous scientific studies that have evaluated pediatric spay/neuter suggest that this is a medically sound practice that is not associated with serious health problems and provides numerous physical and behavioral health benefits.

Pediatric spay/neuter procedures are recognized to be safe and humane. Safe surgical techniques and anesthetic protocols have been well documented. These procedures are widely considered to be easier to perform in younger animals than adults, and they are associated with shorter surgical and recovery times. Although I no longer perform surgery as part of my regular job duties I did so previously as both a private practitioner as well as a shelter veterinarian and can attest first hand to the benefits. Complication rates after spay/neuter have been reported to be lower in young animals compared to adults. Research on post-operative pain levels suggests that kittens not only tolerate surgery but cope with it better than adults, which is a clear argument for pediatric spay/neuter on the grounds of welfare in addition to the other benefits already mentioned.

Pediatric neutering is supported by numerous organizations, including the American Animal Hospital Association, the American Association of Feline Practitioners, the American Humane Association, the Association of Shelter Veterinarians, and the Humane Society of the United States. The American Veterinary Medical Association, with more than 86,000 member veterinarians, supports pediatric spay/neuter and has done so for more than 20 years. These are not new procedures. They are being taught in veterinary schools. They are performed in many shelters, high quality, high volume spay neuter clinics, and even some private veterinary practices across the country every single day. The ASPCA is strongly in support of pediatric spay/neuter and performs these procedures every day in New York City.

Thank you.

LiveOnNY Testimony
To The Committee on Health of the New York City Council
Presented by James Pardes, Vice President, Marketing and Communications
4.21.15

Think about organ donation this way; it is a *cure* for many terminal illnesses. A proven, and successful *cure* that brings life to those whose lives would otherwise be lost.

It brings life to now nine month old baby Essence from Staten Island, who was born with a rare congenital heart defect. It brings life to now 39 year old mom Rosemary from just outside New York City, who struggled for years with Cystic Fibrosis. And, it brings life to now 62 year old grandfather of six Ron from the Bronx, who battled kidney and liver failure.

Despite the remarkable impact of organ donation and transplantation, not enough New Yorkers are choosing to sign-up as donors. In fact, New York State is 50th out of 50 states with regard to the percentage of residents registered as organ donors. As a result, ailing New Yorkers for whom an organ transplant could be a cure, are dying needlessly. They are dying waiting for an organ transplant that never comes.

LiveOnNY, formerly the New York Organ Donor Network, is a federally designated organ procurement organization committed to saving and improving lives by facilitating organ, eye, and tissue donation. Our 180 employees cover a federally designated service area (DSA) that includes 13 million people across the five boroughs of New York City, Long Island, and five counties north of the City including Rockland, Westchester, Putnam, Orange and Dutchess. In 37 years, LiveOnNY has helped to save more than 20,000 lives through organ donation and transplantation.

The shortage of organs in New York is not due to the fact that New Yorkers are against organ donation. To the contrary, a 2010 study revealed that 83% of New Yorkers support organ donation. Yet, just 24% of New Yorkers are registered as organ donors. The national average is 50%. The numbers equate to a clear challenge. That challenge is not to convince New Yorkers that organ donation is good. Instead, our challenge is to inspire New Yorkers to take action.

To that end, LiveOnNY is focused on two important levers – awareness and access. To drive and maintain awareness, using our award-winning “Long Live New York” campaign, we employ a multi-vehicle effort leveraging vehicles including TV, radio, out-of-home, social media, earned media, and community activity to maintain positive sentiment, create urgency, and, ultimately, trigger registration.

But, awareness without optimal access to registration on the Donate Life Registry won’t deliver the best results. Organ donation is not a subject most people want to engage in, let alone proactively seek out. As such, despite the positive sentiment alluded to earlier, we can’t wait for New Yorkers to come to us to register; we have to bring the opportunity to register to New Yorkers.

Across the country, organ donor enrollments through the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) account for 90% of enrollments. But, in New York, driving enrollment through the DMV is a bit more challenging than in most states. The combination of an eight-year driver’s license renewal cycle, a smaller percentage of state residents holding state IDs, and an absence of provisions that allow for those under 18 to register, make the DMV somewhat less productive as a portal than it could be.

LiveOnNY Testimony
To The Committee on Health of the New York City Council
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While hurdles at the DMV exist, New York does benefit from two important programs. New York is the only state in which residents can register to become organ donors when they register to vote (accounting for 15% of enrollments in New York). Additionally, as you likely know, New York City's new identification card, IDNYC, includes the opportunity for organ donor enrollment.

Despite the successful voter and promising IDNYC programs, answering the challenge to inspire and enable organ donor enrollment requires much more. As such, we ask this Committee to consider the following:

- (1) Support Resolution 648 calling for the annual recognition of April as Organ Donation Awareness Month in New York City.
- (2) Support the effort to pass State legislation that will allow for enrollment by those ages 16 and 17 with parental authorization ("The Young Adult Organ Donation Enrollment Bill").
- (3) Support LiveOnNY's effort to present at naturalization ceremonies in the City. LiveOnNY runs a program that has delivered strong results in counties in which naturalization ceremonies are run by the county clerks. In the City, however, the federal government runs naturalization ceremonies, and has not granted LiveOnNY the same opportunity to present.
- (4) Support LiveOnNY's work with the New York City Department of Education to fully integrate an organ donation and transplantation unit of study in the City high school system.
- (5) Leverage New York City media assets to drive awareness and action:
 - a. An allocation of PSAs (TV, radio, online)
 - b. Placement on high-traffic New York City websites
 - c. Access to New York City-owned real estate/assets that could be used to deliver messaging about organ donation
- (6) Become a LiveOnNY workplace partner inclusive of running City-employee-focused donor Registry enrollment drives
- (7) Partner with the LiveOnNY to identify, test and operationalize new points of entry into the Registry via City-controlled venues and/or vehicles
- (8) Issue statements (periodically) to the press underscoring the importance of registering to become an organ donor and asking residents to register
- (9) Provide access to City facilities for organ, eye and tissue donation related events

LiveOnNY Testimony
To The Committee on Health of the New York City Council
Presented by James Pardes, Vice President, Marketing and Communications
4.21.15

Thank you to the Committee for inviting LiveOnNY to testify. We are hopeful that, with your support and effort, we will elevate New York's performance, and save the lives of even more New Yorkers through organ donation and transplantation.

Resolution 648
April 21st 2015
New York City Hall

Good morning council members and thank you for this opportunity to address the committee during April, National donate life month.

My name is Tinamarie Sammon. I am the president of the Transplant Recipients International Organization's Manhattan Chapter. The Manhattan chapter of our parent organization opened its doors in 1990 and has been serving transplant recipients, candidates, their caregivers and organ donors in the New York area ever since. Our mission is to promote awareness, offer support, provide education and participate in advocacy in our community. We provide our members with monthly chapter meetings where transplant professionals are invited to present to our group all topics related to transplant. Some of these professionals include physicians, nurses, social workers, ethicists, nutritionists, religious leaders, procurement specialists and insurance counselors. This past Saturday we celebrated our 20th annual Remember and Rejoice non denominational service at St. Patrick's Cathedral attended by nearly 2000 guests. Our service is the largest gathering of donors and recipients in New York State where recipients honor their donors and donor families can see firsthand the amazing life giving results of their selfless acts in their most challenging times of grief.

In 1982 I was diagnosed with type I diabetes a disease my maternal uncle suffered with, which took his sight at age 18 and ended his life at 38. At age 24 I was diagnosed with diabetic retinopathy, the same disease that caused my uncles' blindness. My sight was saved due to advancements in ophthalmology not available 20 years earlier. I suffered from peripheral neuropathy a nerve disorder in my lower extremities causing numbness in my feet and painful cramping in my legs. And in 2006 I was diagnosed with diabetic nephropathy one of many chronic kidney diseases that lead to End stage renal disease. All of my suffering came from complications to my diabetes. Even insulin pump therapy could not reverse any of the damages that diabetes had created for me. In 2009 I was told I needed a kidney transplant to survive and so I was listed with UNOS for a kidney and pancreas transplant. My very brave sister volunteered to be my donor as well as my mother, cousin and three of my closest girlfriends. In 2010 my sister donated one of her kidneys to me and saved my life. A year later I received a call that a deceased donor pancreas was available to me and I rushed to the hospital and had my second organ transplant two days before my birthday. My donor was a 24 year old hedge fund manager living in NYC and suffered a freak accidental fall at her

apartment. She was vivacious and full of life. Her parents rushed to NY from North Carolina to be with their only child. They made a beautiful decision in a time of grief when they chose to donate her organs. She saved five people that day. My sisters kidney saved my life for sure but I could not remember what life was like before diabetes and having a working pancreas has changed my life tremendously. I am the healthiest I have ever been in my life now cured of my diabetes and I know just how lucky I am. Many others are not so lucky. As of January 2015 there were nearly 124,000 people in the United States awaiting an organ transplant. So many people, men, women children, babies are dying while on the list. 21 people in fact die every day but just one donor can save 8 lives through organ donation and over 100 lives through tissue donation.

I have also been an active volunteer with the National Kidney Foundation since my diagnosis in 2009, and their data says that every 5 minutes someone in the United States goes into kidney failure and 25 million Americans have kidney disease. And here In New York, 8,000 people need a kidney, 1300 need a liver and 300 New Yorkers need a heart. There are currently over 10,000 New Yorkers on the waiting list for a life saving organ and they need our help. New Yorkers can sign up online now, mail in an application or register at the DMV when they get their driver's license or renew their license or State ID card or when they register to vote as long as they are at least 18 years old.

But The sad truth is that we have so much need in our state compared to the rest of the country and we have the lowest amount of registered donors. We need to do more, we have to do more because people like you and me are dying every day in NEW YORK-the greatest place in the world...it's really hard to believe.

On behalf of TRIO Manhattan Chapter and donor families whose acts of generosity make the gift of life a reality for many patients awaiting a life saving transplant I want to thank Council member Costa Constantinides and the other members of the city council and urge the health committee members to support Resolution 648 of 2015 to declare this April and every April from here on Organ Donation Awareness Month.

Thank You.



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April 21, 2015

To: City Council, The City of New York

RE: New York City Retail Pet Shop Legislation & Amendments

Madam/Mister Chairman, Members of the New York City Council,

Good morning, I am Dr. Stuart Goldenberg and I represent the Sunnyside Pet healthcare Center in Sunnyside N.Y. I have been practicing Veterinary medicine In New York City for 25 years.

Having only 3 minutes to speak I would like to make three important points and then submit my statement to the Council.

First, it is becoming increasingly more evident that early or pediatric spaying of female dogs can adversely affect the health and longevity of these pets.

The concept that neutering animals, especially before they reach sexual maturity, has implications for their health is not new. A 2007 review paper published in the Journal of the American Veterinary Medical Association cites more than 180 research papers dating back to the mid-20th century. Investigators have looked at the societal impacts of neutering, behavioral effects and effects on the incidence of a number of diseases, including cancers, endocrine disorders and bone problems

It appears that we may be shortening the life of these animals as well as increasing health costs for the owners.

Facts: Shortened lifespan, Atypical Cushing's disease, Cardiac tumors, Bone cancer, Abnormal bone growth and development, Higher rate of CCL ruptures, Hip dysplasia

Shortened lifespan: A study conducted and published in 2009 by the Gerald P. Murphy Cancer Foundation established a link between the age at which female Rottweilers are spayed and how long they live. Researchers compared long-lived Rotties that lived for 13 years or more with those who lived a normal lifespan of about 9 years. They discovered that while females live longer than males, removing the ovaries of female Rottweilers before five years of age evened the score. Females who kept their ovaries until at least 6 years of age were four times more likely to reach an exceptional age compared to Rotties who were spayed at a younger age.

Atypical Cushing's disease: There is evidence that early spaying and neutering plays a role in the development of atypical Cushing's disease as well. Typical Cushing's means the middle layer of the adrenal gland is over-secreting cortisol. Atypical Cushing's involves the outer and innermost layers of the adrenal glands and occurs when other types of hormones are over-produced, usually estrogen and progesterone.

When a dog is spayed or neutered before puberty, the endocrine, glandular and hormonal systems have not yet fully developed. A complete removal of the gonads, resulting in stopping production of all the body's sex hormones (which is what happens during castration or the traditional spay), can force the adrenal glands to produce sex hormones because they're the only remaining tissue in the body that can secrete them.

Over time, the adrenal glands become taxed from doing their own work plus the work of the missing gonads. It's very difficult for these tiny little glands to keep up with the body's demand for sex hormones. This is the condition of atypical Cushing's. Hormone disruption is a central feature in Cushing's disease. Any substance or procedure that affects the body's hormonal balance should be absolutely evaluated as a potential root cause.

Cardiac tumors: A Veterinary Medical Database search of the years 1982 to 1985 revealed that in dogs with tumors of the heart, the relative risk for spayed females was over four times that of intact females. For the most common type of cardiac tumor, hemangiosarcoma, spayed females had a greater than five times risk vs. their intact counterparts. Neutered males had a slightly higher risk than intact males as well.

Bone cancer: In another Rottweiler study published 10 years ago for both males and females spayed or neutered before one year of age, there was a one in four lifetime risk of developing bone cancer. Desexed Rotties were significantly more likely to acquire the disease than intact dogs. In another study using the Veterinary Medical Database for 1980 to 1984, the risk of bone cancer in large-breed, purebred dogs increased two-fold for those dogs that were also desexed.

Abnormal bone growth and development: Studies done in the 1990s concluded dogs spayed or neutered under one year of age grew significantly taller than non-sterilized dogs or those dogs spayed or neutered after puberty. The earlier the spay or neuter procedure, the taller the dog. Research published in 2000 may explain why: it appears that the removal of estrogen-producing organs in immature dogs – both females and males – can cause growth plates to remain open. These animals continue to grow and wind up with abnormal growth patterns and bone structure. This results in irregular body proportions, possible cartilage issues, and joint conformation issues.

Higher rate of CCL ruptures: A study conducted at Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center on cranial cruciate ligament injuries concluded that spayed and neutered dogs had a significantly higher incidence of rupture than their intact counterparts. While large-breed dogs had more CCL injuries, sterilized or desexed dogs of all breeds and sizes had an increased rupture rate.

Hip dysplasia: In a retrospective cohort study conducted at Cornell University's College of Veterinary Medicine, results showed that both male and female dogs sterilized at an early age were more prone to hip dysplasia.

Breed-specific effects of spay/neuter: A recent study conducted at the University of California Davis involving several hundred Golden Retrievers revealed that for the incidence of hip dysplasia, CCL tears, lymphosarcoma, hemangiosarcoma, and mast cell tumors, the rates were significantly higher in both males and females that were neutered or spayed compared with intact dogs.

Other health concerns: Early spaying or neutering is commonly associated with urinary incontinence in female dogs and has been linked to increased incidence of urethral sphincter incontinence in males.

Spayed or neutered Golden Retrievers are much more likely to develop hypothyroidism.

A cohort study of shelter dogs conducted by the College of Veterinary Medicine at Texas A&M University concluded that infectious diseases were more common in dogs that were spayed and neutered at under 24 weeks of age.

Neutering Dogs: Effects on Joint Disorders and Cancers in Golden Retrievers

Gretel Torres de la Riva, Benjamin L. Hart , Thomas B. Farver, Anita M. Oberbauer, Locksley L. McV. Messam, Neil Willits, Lynette A. Hart

Published: February 13, 2013 DOI: 10.1371/journal.pone.0055937

Abstract

In contrast to European countries, the overwhelming majority of dogs in the U.S. are neutered (including spaying), usually done before one year of age. Given the importance of gonadal hormones in growth and development, this cultural contrast invites an analysis of the multiple organ systems that may be adversely affected by neutering. Using a single breed-specific dataset, the objective was to examine the variables of gender and age at the time of neutering versus leaving dogs gonadally intact, on all diseases occurring with sufficient frequency for statistical analyses. Given its popularity and vulnerability to various cancers and joint disorders, the Golden Retriever was chosen for this study. Veterinary hospital records of 759 client-owned, intact and neutered female and male dogs, 1–8 years old, were examined for diagnoses of hip dysplasia (HD), cranial cruciate ligament tear (CCL), lymphosarcoma (LSA), hemangiosarcoma (HSA), and mast cell tumor (MCT). Patients were classified as intact, or neutered early (<12 mo) or late (\geq 12 mo). Statistical analyses involved survival analyses and incidence rate comparisons. Outcomes at the 5 percent level of significance are reported. Of early-neutered males, 10 percent were diagnosed with HD, double the occurrence in intact males. There were no cases of CCL diagnosed in intact males or females, but in early-neutered males and females the occurrences were 5 percent and 8 percent, respectively. Almost 10 percent of early-neutered males were diagnosed with LSA, 3 times more than intact males. The percentage of HSA cases in late-neutered females (about 8 percent) was 4 times more than intact and early-neutered females. There were no cases of MCT in intact females, but the occurrence was nearly 6 percent in late-neutered females. The results have health implications for Golden Retriever companion and service dogs, and for oncologists using dogs as models of cancers that occur in humans.

Two studies published this year within a 2-month period highlight the paradox. The first study, conducted by a team at the University of California, Davis, found a greater occurrence of hip dysplasia, cranial cruciate ligament tears and two types of cancer in sterilized golden retrievers compared with their intact counterparts. The research found the health risks generally were greater for dogs that were younger than 1 year when sterilized.

The second study, conducted by researchers from the University of Georgia, Athens (UGA), found a strong association between sterilization and greater longevity.

The coincidental timing of these studies have fanned an already contentious discussion in veterinary medicine. How does pet sterilization relate to responsible pet care? What are the medical benefits? At what age, if ever, should dogs or cats be neutered?

The concept that neutering animals, especially before they reach sexual maturity, has implications for their health is not new. A 2007 review paper published in the Journal of the American Veterinary Medical Association cites more than 180 research papers dating back to the mid-20th century. Investigators have looked at the societal impacts of neutering, behavioral effects and effects on the incidence of a number of diseases, including cancers, endocrine disorders and bone problems

Secondary; in attempting to improve the health and wellbeing of these Pet's we may be opening the door to greater pain and suffering.

As they often say follow the money, in a capitalist society people will usual find a way to do things in way as to reduce their cost and increase their profits.

We already have concerns as to the quality and type of care being given at the breeders, it is only logical with the size of the pet market in New York City that they will soon be spaying and neutering these pets at the source! God only knows who will be doing those surgeries! Then right after these surgeries the puppies will be put in the back of a truck, bottom of a plane and shipped to New York.

Thirdly; this law does nothing to curtail or control the ever growing internet sale of pet. After all this is New York City where an ever increasing numbers of the population order almost everything from there iPhone, iPad or computer. Most pet stores have already lost their food and supplies business to the internet. I and most Veterinarians are seeing an ever increasing number of internet bought pets. Requiring the pet stores to sell only spayed or neutered puppies will increase even more these internet sales due to the fact that there prices will be even lower than they are now. This may put the pet stores out of business, which may make certain groups happy but will make it even more difficult to control the quality of care and health of New York City puppies.

For all these reasons I urge you to remove this requirement.

Respectfully yours,

Stuart Goldenberg

Stuart Goldenberg D.V.M.



FOR THE RECORD

**PET INDUSTRY JOINT
ADVISORY COUNCIL**

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**TESTIMONY OF THE PET INDUSTRY JOINT ADVISORY COUNCIL
FOR CONSIDERATION OF THE
NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE ON HEALTH
IN OPPOSITION TO PROPOSED "TECHNICAL CHANGES" TO LOCAL
LAWS 5, 6, 7 AND 8**

April 21, 2015

The Pet Industry Joint Advisory Council (PIJAC) appreciates the opportunity to offer the New York City Council's Committee on Health our views regarding proposed "technical changes" to local laws 5, 6, 7 and 8. While PIJAC would support changes that encourage responsible animal ownership without creating a virtual ban on the pet trade, we absolutely oppose the current "technical changes", as they only serve to strengthen the de facto ban. As the country's largest pet trade association, representing the interests of all segments of the pet industry throughout the United States, PIJAC counts among its members national associations, organizations, corporations and individuals involved in the commercial pet trade. More specifically, PIJAC represents the interests of pet stores, distributors, pet supply manufacturers, breeders, retailers and pet owners throughout the state of New York and across the country.

Let me start by saying that nobody cares more about healthy and safe pets than do PIJAC and our members. We have for many years provided a well-respected animal care certification program that is widely utilized by not only persons in the commercial pet trade but shelters and humane societies as well. Our association has long been recognized as the voice for a responsible pet trade, and we routinely advocate legislative and regulatory proposals establishing governmental mandates where appropriate to advance the public interest and welfare of pets. PIJAC works closely with USDA to ensure effective enforcement of the federal Animal Welfare Act, and has since its inception. We regularly work with federal and state agencies as well as local governments to advance animal welfare interests.

Even as we have worked to raise standards of care, PIJAC has battled misconceptions about the quality of pet store animals and the source of such animals. The unsubstantiated assertion that pet store puppies generally come from substandard breeding facilities is commonly used as a smoke screen to obscure the fact that the overwhelming majority of pet owners who choose pet stores bring home a happy, healthy pet and that they remain highly satisfied with their pet store experience.

The reality is that almost all pet store puppies originate from USDA licensed breeders, and are transported by USDA licensed brokers who are regularly inspected and found to comply with appropriate care standards. By contrast, many of the dogs and cats from other sources, including rogue Internet operators, private breeders, shelters and rescues, did not come from licensed breeders.

We at PIJAC fail to understand the prohibition of brokers as a source of dogs or cats. Acquiring animals through brokers provides pet shops with the greatest opportunity to ensure that they are providing customers with the most healthy, most varied and most genetically diverse animals. Animals acquired through our member brokers undergo an initial veterinary inspection, quarantine to ensure their health, regular play and social interaction and a follow-up veterinary inspection prior to their transport to the pet shop.

Our member brokers conduct seminars to educate breeders on emerging science in animal husbandry and pay a premium for animals provided by breeders that exceed USDA standards in care and raising. They microchip each of their animals to ensure accountability and traceability. Prohibiting the sale of any dog or cat acquired through a USDA licensed broker will have the effect of reducing, not improving, the quality and diversity of the pets available.

It should be noted that the breeders and brokers who provide animals to pet shops are subject to USDA scrutiny and oversight. Banning the sale of the dogs and cats from brokers that are subject to this strict regulation and sourcing transparency will only drive prospective pet owners to unscrupulous sellers of pets who are not licensed and are unconcerned about compliance with animal care standards. Thus, in considering an arbitrary and capricious ordinance, New York City risks enacting a law that will not only fail to alleviate the conditions about which it has concerns, but will actually exacerbate the very problem the law would seek to address.

Animals delivered to pet stores in New York City are highly regulated:

- In the state of their birth
- In the state of their distributor
- By the federal government
- By New York when the animals enter the state
- And animal cruelty is a criminal offense everywhere

PIJAC strongly opposes the recent expansion of the mandatory spaying and neutering requirement. Consensus on animal ownership issues is difficult to come by, especially when considering the positions of such disparate groups as the American Kennel Club, the American Veterinary Medical Association, the ASPCA and the Humane Society of the United States. In this case, however, these groups have all publicly stated their opposition to mandatory spay/neuter laws, as mandatory sterilization does not achieve the stated goal of decreasing the number of unwanted and abandoned dogs and cats. Simply put, animals from responsible pet owners represent a small percentage of shelter and rescue intake. Further, the elimination of the 4 month waiver on spaying or neutering means that it is impossible for owners to comply with the veterinarian consensus that the earliest age at which it is appropriate to spay or neuter dogs is 6-8 months depending upon the breed and individual animal.

Given the recently released audit of New York Animal Care and Control, PIJAC's final concern with the recently passed legislation is that it creates a two class system that it may lead to substandard treatment of animals. We find no justification for exempting shelters and rescues from the chapter that dictates the cleanliness, space, exercise, socialization or veterinary care requirements imposed on pet shops. We agree with these standards in order to ensure the health and welfare of the animals and strongly recommend that they be made universal. The shelter and rescue exemption should be removed. The idea that if one breeder acts irresponsibly you would outlaw the entire pet trade, but if the city's shelter is abhorrent you would increase its funding is inexplicable.

Hyperbole and emotionalism are poor substitutes for rational evaluation of objective information in establishing public policy. PIJAC recognizes that a few substandard facilities supplying pet stores do exist, as do substandard breeders providing dogs directly to the public and, in fact, substandard shelters as well. Our efforts to ensure humane standards of care are met in all of these facilities will continue. However, singling out pet stores for specious generalizations based on anecdotal evidence will **NOT** eliminate the existence of substandard conditions. While this proposal may be a "feel good" approach it only diverts attention away from efforts to really accomplish effective solutions and we urge the Board not to move forward with the proposal and take action to ensure high standards without outlawing responsible pet sales.

PIJAC is highly sympathetic to the concerns motivating this proposed law, but an effective ban on retail pet sales is unjustified and ultimately will fail to better protect pets as will creating a two class system in which shelters are not required to care humanely for the animals in their care. We respectfully urge the Committee on Health and the entirety of the New York City Council to reject the ban and not impose excessive restrictions on all pet owners by punishing legitimate local businesses that are committed to the health, safety and well-being of animals and who are positive, contributing members of the local community and economy.

We would welcome the opportunity to work with the New York City Council to arrive at a meaningful public policy solution related to the care of animals. By working together we can make sure the people of New York continue to have access to healthy animals to love as pets.

Thank you greatly for your consideration of our views.

Robert Likins
Director, Government Affairs
Pet Industry Joint Advisory Council



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FOR THE RECORD

American Kennel Club Testimony to New York City Council Committee on Health

Re: Preconsidered Introduction on Pet Shop Requirements

April 21, 2015

Mr. Chairman and Members of the New York City Council Committee on Health:

My Name is Ann Lettis, Director of Responsible Dog Owners of NY a Staten Island resident. I'm here this morning representing Responsible Dog Owners of NY, an American Kennel Club (AKC) Federation of dog clubs. I am also presenting testimony for Sheila Goffe of the AKC, who could not be here today. I have submitted copies of the AKC testimony.

As a New York City-based not for profit organization, the AKC has been dedicated to the health and wellbeing of dogs and promoting responsible dog ownership for more than 130 years. We thank you for the proposed changes with respect to microchipping and finally-determined USDA violations.

Our commitment to the wellbeing of all dogs *obliges us to ask for two additional changes to protect the health of puppies and the rights of responsible NYC dog owners.*

1. AKC urges you to remove sterilization requirements in local law No. 7 that would mandate dangerous neo-natal surgery of puppies prior to transfer by a pet store and certain breeders. Neo-natal spay/neuter policies have been demonstrated to harm the health of animals, increase costs for governments, and fail to address animal population concerns.

Potential harm related to juvenile spay/neuter includes elevated risks associated with neonatal anesthetization and recovery, as well as an increased potential for cancer, hip dysplasia, ligament damage, a shorter lifespan, and even chronic incontinence – which creates housetraining issues, one of the more common reasons dogs are surrendered to shelters.

Although spay/neuter is properly considered an elective surgery, it is a major surgery with potentially serious consequences. *The decision to spay or neuter a dog is one that should be made by the pet's owner after careful discussion with their veterinarian.*

Mandatory spay/neuter laws are ineffective because they fail to address underlying issues of responsible dog ownership. They punish responsible dog owners who choose to keep a dog intact, while irresponsible owners will largely avoid or ignore the laws.

A better alternative is low cost spay/neuter clinics and responsible dog ownership programs that help citizens make responsible decisions before acquiring a pet and help them care for those they own. The AKC and New York City dog clubs would be pleased to work with you on public education programs that promote responsible dog ownership in our city.

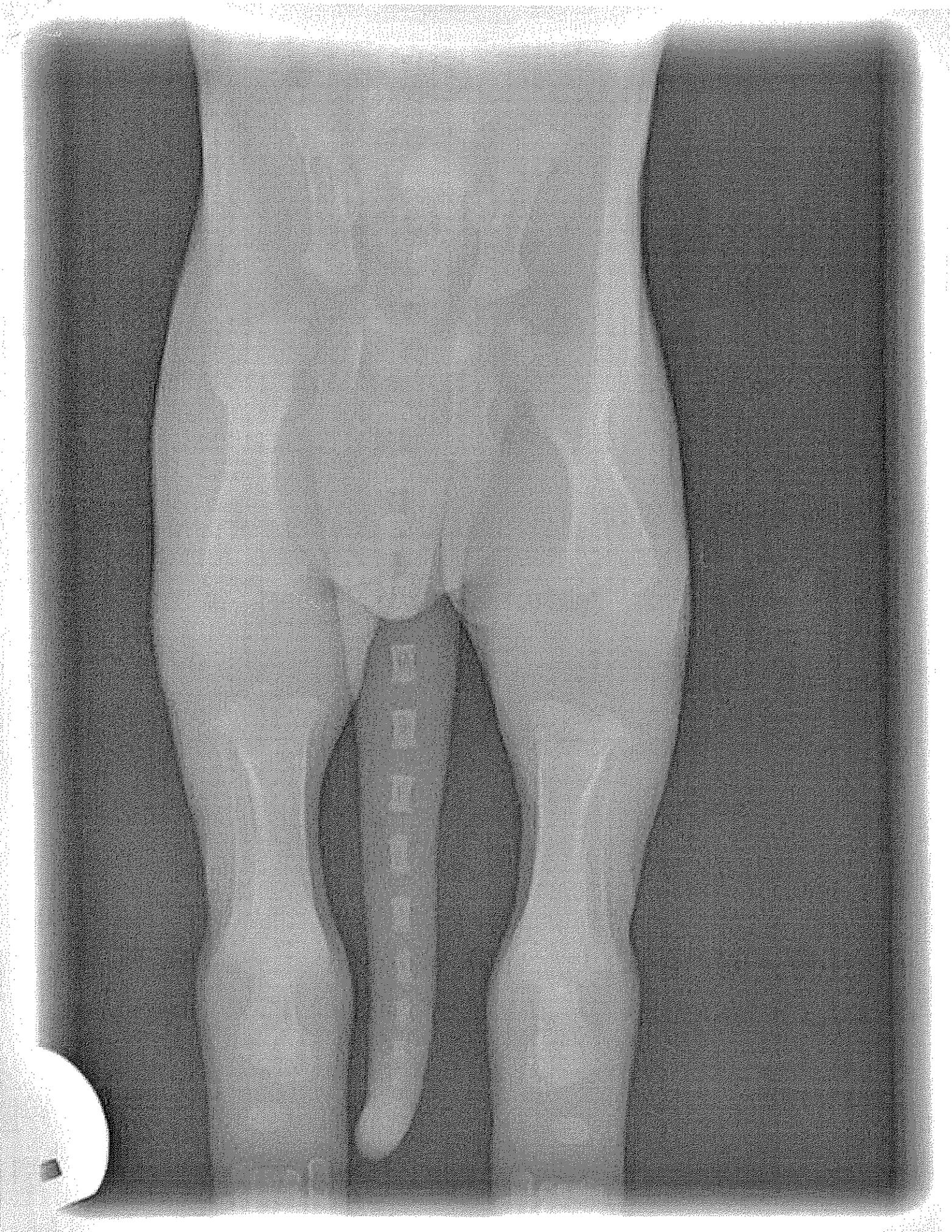
2. AKC Urges Removal of Prohibition on Class B Dealers. Class B licensees are federally-regulated intermediaries between breeders and pet shops. They provide pet stores with pets that come from known and regulated breeders and by law must receive a number of health checks prior to sale. These animals are subject to New York State consumer protection laws and enable retail pet stores to provide quality purebred pets to consumers who wish to obtain a puppy with predictable temperament, health and breed characteristics.

The Mayor's Alliance for NYC Pets 2013 report shows a 40% decrease in city shelter intakes in the last 10 years, while the number of unregulated groups transporting pets into NYC for the pet market continues to skyrocket. The City's own reports demonstrate that there is a strong demand for pets in New York City. If the city is willing to encourage large numbers of pets being brought into the NYC market without regulations or health checks, it makes no sense to ban the sources of pets that are regulated, health checked, subject to consumer protection laws, and city taxes.

I have attached an x-ray of a 2 weeks old puppy. Does anyone on this committee actually think that within another 6 weeks this puppy will be fully developed, and able to withstand major surgery that requires being subjected to anesthesia? Has anyone on this committee owned a puppy they brought to a veterinarian at 8 week to undergo this procedure? Is anyone on this committee even aware of complications that can occur when a mature female dog is spayed? The questions are specifically for those on the committee as opposed to opinions from various sources that simply cry our shelters are overpopulated and this is the only, although inhumane solution.

Thank you for your consideration.

Ann Lettis





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American Kennel Club Testimony to the New York City Council Committee on Health

April 21, 2015

Preconsidered Introductions for Technical Changes to Pet Shop Requirements

2015 local laws 5, 6, 7 and 8/ Request for additional changes

The American Kennel Club and our local New York City dog clubs thank you for the proposed changes with respect to microchipping and finally determined USDA violations in the preconsidered introductions. These changes protect the wellbeing of dogs the rights of responsible dog enthusiasts, breeders, and pet owners to act in the best interest of their dogs.

As a New York City-based not for profit organization, the AKC has been dedicated to the health and wellbeing of dogs and promoting responsible dog ownership for more than 130 years. *Our commitment to the wellbeing of all dogs obliges us to ask for two additional changes to protect the health of puppies and ensure that the best interests of dogs and their owners is protected in New York City.*

1. AKC Urges Removal of Mandatory Sterilization Requirements: Local Law No. 7, scheduled to go into effect in June 2015, mandates the neo-natal sterilization of pets prior to transfer by a pet store and certain breeders.

The American Kennel Club is extremely concerned about New York City advancing this policy, particularly as such policies elsewhere have been demonstrated to harm animals, increase costs for governments, and fail at addressing animal population concerns.

The American Kennel Club joins a broad range of other animal advocates including the American Veterinary Medical Association, No-Kill Advocacy Center, the American College of Theriogenologists, and the National Animal Interest Alliance in opposing the concept of government-mandated spay/neuter. These position statements are included as Addendum 1 to this letter.

Harmful impacts of juvenile sterilization: Surgical spaying and neutering are major, elective surgeries. *Increasing scientific evidence demonstrates that radical castration and ovariectomy—particularly when conducted on puppies as young as 8 weeks of age—as would be required by the new NYC law—are harmful to the long-term health of a dog.*

Potential harm related to juvenile spay/neuter includes elevated risks associated with neonatal anesthetization and recovery, as well as an increased potential for cancer, hip dysplasia, ligament damage, a shorter lifespan, and even chronic incontinence – which creates housetraining issues, one of the more common reasons dogs are surrendered to shelters.

Although spay/neuter is properly considered an elective surgery, it is a major surgery with potentially serious consequences. *The decision to spay or neuter a dog is one that should be made by the pet's owner after careful discussion with their veterinarian.*

Additional information and studies discussing the health dangers associated with mandatory sterilization are attached as Addendum 2 to this letter.

It is also important to note that mandatory spay/neuter laws are ineffective because they fail to address underlying issues of responsible dog ownership. They punish responsible dog owners who choose to keep a dog intact for health reasons or to participate in events such as AKC dog shows, while irresponsible owners will largely avoid or ignore the laws. In fact, the American Veterinary Medical Association opposes mandatory sterilization laws because they can lead to animal health concerns as owners will not take their animals in for routine veterinary care and vaccinations in order to hide their lack of compliance.¹

In addition, it has been found that mandatory spay/neuter laws are ineffective in addressing population concerns. In many cases, the laws have actually created new economic and safety issues for a community. For example, after Dallas, Texas, enacted MSN policies in 2008, the city experienced a 22 percent increase in animal control costs and an overall decrease in licensing compliance. The ASPCA also cites a study from Montgomery County, Maryland, stating that “fewer pets were subsequently licensed, likely due to owners’ reluctance to pay

¹ May 15, 2009. American Veterinary Medical Association. “AVMA: Mandatory spay/neuter a bad idea.” <https://www.avma.org/News/JAVMANews/Pages/090515j.aspx>

either the high fee for keeping an unaltered animal, or the fee to have the pet altered.”²

We strongly urge the City to remove requirements for spay/neuter prior to sales of pets so that dog owners may be allowed to make responsible health care decisions for their pets in conjunction with their veterinarian.

A better alternative is to focus on encouraging affordable spay-neuter and responsible dog ownership programs. Low cost spay/neuter clinics and responsible dog ownership programs designed to help citizens make responsible decisions before acquiring a pet and to help them care for those they own are a much more effective solution for addressing pet ownership issues. The AKC and our local New York City dog clubs would be pleased to work with you on public education programs that promote responsible dog ownership in our city.

2. Remove Prohibition on Class B Dealers: The AKC also remains concerned that the new laws continue to ban pet shops from obtaining puppies from USDA class B licensees. Class B licensees are federally-regulated intermediaries between breeders and pet shops. They provide pet stores with pets that come from known and regulated breeders and by law must receive a number of health checks prior to sale. These animals are subject to New York State consumer protection laws and enable retail pet stores to provide quality purebred pets to consumers who wish to obtain a puppy with predictable temperament, health and breed characteristics.

² American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. “Position Statement of Mandatory Spay/Neuter Laws.” <https://www.asPCA.org/nyc/mobile-spay-neuter-clinic/position-statement-on-mandatory-spayneuter-laws>

The Mayor's Alliance for NYC Pets 2013 report shows a 40% decrease in city shelter intakes in the last 10 years, while the number of unregulated groups transporting pets into NYC for the pet market continues to skyrocket.³ These numbers demonstrate that there is a strong demand for pets in New York.

Removing the ban on sourcing pets from class B dealers will allow New York's pet stores a broad choice in sourcing dogs to ensure they are obtaining the best-quality pets for their customers. Pet shops that provide healthy pets from known and regulated sources, meet the humane and welfare requirements in existing state or federal laws, and are subject to state consumer protection laws provide an important option for future pet owners. Pet shops are also small businesses, employers, taxpayers and an important part of the neighborhood in which they reside.

When consumers cannot acquire a pet that is an appropriate fit for their lifestyle, that animal is more likely to end up in the shelter system.

A better solution is to ensure that consumers are educated, understand the demands of responsible ownership and have access to a variety of pets so that they can make educated choices.

Finally, it should also be noted that where similar measures have been passed, they have

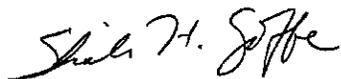
³ March 28, 2014. Mayor's Alliance for NYC's Animals. "2013 Progress Report."
http://issuu.com/mayorsallianceny/doc/march_28_2014_progress_report_2013

interfered with the operation of legal businesses regulated by the state and have caused local businesses to close down. Recent passage of similar laws in Phoenix, Arizona, and Cook County, Illinois, has resulted in vigorous federal litigation and a stay against the implementation of those restrictions.

The American Kennel Club thanks you for your consideration. We look forward to working with you to protect the health of dogs and the rights of responsible New York City dog enthusiasts. Please do not hesitate to contact me or the AKC Government Relations team at 212-696-8200 ext.3720 if you have questions or we may be of assistance in developing alternative solutions.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sheila H. Goffe". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Sheila Goffe

Director, Government Relations



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**ADDENDUM #1: Selected Organization Position Statements on
Mandatory/Spay Neuter**

The following are links to organizational position statements on mandatory spay/neuter:

- American Kennel Club – [“Canine Population Issues”](#)
- American Kennel Club – [“Spaying and Neutering”](#)
- American Kennel Club – [“Why Mandatory Spay/Neuter Laws Are Ineffective”](#)
- American College of Theriogenologists – [“Mandatory Spay/Neuter”](#)
- American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals – [“Position Statement on Mandatory Spay/Neuter Laws”](#)
- American Veterinary Medical Association – [“AVMA: Mandatory spay/neuter a bad idea”](#)
- American Veterinary Medication Association – [“Dog and Cat Population Control”](#)
- National Animal Interest Alliance – [“Mandatory Spay/Neuter Laws a Misguided Approach to Stabilizing Pet Populations”](#)
- No-Kill Advocacy Center – [“The Dark Side of Mandatory Licensing and Neutering Laws”](#)



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ADDENDUM #2: Selection of Studies Demonstrating Negative Impact of Juvenile and Mandatory Spay/Neuter

- Cooley, Dawn M., Beranek, BC, Schlittler, DL, Glickman, NW, Glickman, LT, and Waters, DJ (2002) Endogenous Gonadal Hormone Exposure and Bone Sarcoma Risk. *Cancer Epidemiol Biomarkers Prev* 2002; 11:1434-1440 <http://cebp.aacrjournals.org/content/11/11/1434.full>
- Hart BL, Hart LA, Thigpen AP, Willits NH (2014) Long-Term Health Effects of Neutering Dogs: Comparison of Labrador Retrievers with Golden Retrievers. *PLoS ONE* 9(7): e102241. doi: 10.1371/journal.pone.0102241 <http://www.plosone.org/article/info%3Adoi%2F10.1371%2Fjournal.pone.0102241>
- Society for Theriogenology, Basis for Position on Mandatory Spay-Neuter in the Canine and Feline. http://c.ymcdn.com/sites/www.therio.org/resource/resmgr/docs/spay-neuter_basis.pdf
- Sandborn, Laura J, M.S. (May 14, 2007), Long-Term Health Risks and Benefits Associated with Spay/Neuter in Dogs. <http://www.naiaonline.org/pdfs/LongTermHealthEffectsOfSpayNeuterInDogs.pdf>
- Torres de la Riva G, Hart BL, Farver TB, Oberbauer AM, Messam LLM, et al. (2013) Neutering Dogs: Effects on Joint Disorders and Cancers in Golden Retrievers. *PLoS ONE* 8(2): e55937. doi: 10.1371/journal.pone.0055937 <http://www.plosone.org/article/info%3Adoi%2F10.1371%2Fjournal.pone.0055937>
- Waters, D. J., Kengeri, S. S., Clever, B., Booth, J. A., Maras, A. H., Schlittler, D. L. and Hayek, M. G. (2009), Exploring mechanisms of sex differences in longevity: lifetime ovary exposure and exceptional longevity in dogs. *Aging Cell*, 8: 752–755. doi: 10.1111/j.1474-9726.2009.00513.x <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC2805875/>
- Zink, Chris, DVM, PhD, DACVP, DACVSMR (updated 2013), Early Spay-Neuter Considerations for the Canine Athlete: One Veterinarian's Opinion. Canine Sports Productions, <http://www.caninesports.com/uploads/1/5/3/1/15319800/earlyspayconsiderations.pdf>

Thank you Chairman Johnson and the members of the NYC Council Committee on Health.

My name is Dr. Linda Jacobson and I am a private practitioner in Brooklyn, NY and the 2012 President of the New York State Veterinary Medical Society.

I am coming before you today to ask you to please reconsider the mandatory spaying or neutering of pediatric pets purchased from pet shops.

While the AVMA and the NYSVMS believe that dog and cat overpopulation is a primary welfare concern of our society, we do not support regulations requiring the spay/neuter of privately owned, non-shelter dogs and cats. These pets rarely contribute to pet overpopulation and these procedures are not in the best interest for the health of these animals.

These procedures performed on pediatric animals are complex and can be at great risk to the animal.

1. For example, the risk of a drop in body temperature is greater in a young animal than an older one. This can lead to death. There can be a drop in blood sugar also leading to seizures and death.
2. Also, many pups and kittens are born with congenital heart murmurs that can be outgrown over a period of time. To operate on an animal with this condition can hasten death whereas if the pet is allowed time, the procedure would have a more successful outcome.
3. Just as for other medical and surgical procedures, veterinarians should use their best medical judgment in deciding at what age a spay/neuter should be performed on individual animals.

Also, studies done at several universities and by breed associations are demonstrating time and again that early spay/neutering can increase the risk of many types of cancers, such as bone cancer and lymphoma, as well as increasing the risk of joint diseases such as hip dysplasia and ACL tears. And even more seriously, it can shorten the lives of these pets.

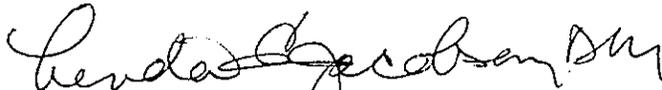
The ovaries and testicles of pets are endocrine glands that produce hormones. Although they are needed for reproduction, these glands also produce hormones that appear to be needed for optimal growth and health. One would not think of removing the thyroid gland of an animal that controls metabolism or the pancreas which secretes insulin, yet many think that removing of these reproductive glands of these animals can be done without a second thought. Again, studies show that the longer an animal has these glands, the better their health.

Pet-shop purchased animals are bought with the idea of having many years of healthy companionship with the new owner or owners. Enforcing this new law can seriously diminish this from happening. I can direct you to studies on families and children, and the elderly on the benefits derived from the Human Companion Animal Bond relationship.

Again, I ask you to leave the law as was originally written with the mandatory age of spay/neutering at 4 months.

I would also invite every member of this committee to come to my practice and scrub in with my staff and observe a spay or neuter. I think this might help all involved here today to gain a greater insight into this particular issue.

Yours truly,



Linda E. Jacobson, D.V.M.
Jacobson Veterinary Clinic
291 Kings Highway
Brooklyn, NY 11223

718-376-8957



20 Park Place, Suite 1

Shippensburg, PA 17257

Telephone: 717-477-8938 Fax: 717-477-8943

April 21, 2015

To Whom It May

"Above all else do no harm." This is a part of our Veterinary Oath which all Veterinarians abide by and all animal caretakers should too.

It has been brought to my attention that New York City is considering an early spay/neuter program prior to entry into the City. Current research shows that early spaying and neutering may cause an increased incidence of anterior cruciate tears and other orthopedic disorders as the animal ages, as well as female urinary incontinence. Anesthetic risk is also increased when sedating animals under ten pounds.

At this time my Veterinary Associates and I do not recommend early spaying and neutering. The animals' age and breed have a tremendous effect on their developmental rate, therefore surgical procedures are done on an individual decision basis.

Having worked with a class B kennel for the last 13 years I have been able to witness a metamorphosis of the level of care given to animals that come through the kennel. Changes in Pennsylvania laws have set a new standard for dog care across the state. This has increased the quality of what the animals receive for facilities, feeding, temperature, airflow, flooring, medical care, exercise and behavioral enrichment. I have seen the quality of puppies increase and a decrease in contagious diseases (i.e. parasites, parvo virus, and kennel cough) to the point of rarity. The consistency of puppy quality I feel is good to excellent. This particular class B kennel offers a one-year health guarantee up to the value of the dog. They also offer a lifetime guarantee to take back the dog should the owners be unable to keep it.

I believe the standards set forth with class B kennels across the nation will continue to produce better quality dogs to meet the ever increasing demand from the public for puppies and NYC would be doing their residents a disservice to limit their Canine Companion choices.

Sincerely,

Amy L. Hinton, DVM

And associates at Mountain View Veterinary Services

John A. Reese, DVM

Margaret E. Zink, DVM

Trent L. Lartz, DVM

Sally L. Adams, DVM



LOWER EAST SIDE *Animal Hospital*

Chairman Johnson and Members of the City Council --

Thank you for allowing me to speak before you today. My name is Dr. Marc Siebert and I am a veterinarian who owns two animal hospitals in Manhattan, Heart of Chelsea Animal Hospital and Lower East Side Animal Hospital. I have been practicing veterinary medicine, including surgery, for more than 20 years and have been a practice owner for 16 years.

I would like to address the impending legislation requiring the sterilization of dogs and cats sold or adopted from pet stores and shelters. I would like to urge you to reconsider this law. As a medical professional, I would like to address the possible morbidity and mortality associated with early spay and neuter.

1. There is a death rate associated with early spay and neuter.
2. AAHA standards of medicine cannot be carried out due to size restriction of patients being sterilized. This means no IV catheter is placed, no IV fluids are given, no resuscitation medications are possible to give as there is no patent vein.
3. Puppies and kittens 8-12 weeks of age is when their immune system is developing. Therefore, if surgery is performed, the development of immunity to environmental diseases such as parvovirus, distemper virus, hepatitis, adenovirus, bordetella, canine flu and many others will be curtailed as the immune system will be stressed with a surgical injury and not mount immune responses to these deadly diseases in dogs and cats.
4. Multiple breed specific and size specific diseases and syndromes are documented in early spay and neuter.

I believe, a client – patient - veterinarian relationship needs to be formed in order for a new pet owner to make an informed decision about when to spay and neuter their new family member based on breed, size, age and genetics.

With this legislation, most likely you will be deferring the sterilization procedure to another state, most likely where the puppy is bred. The burden of paying for the sterilization procedure will be on the pet store or on the originating breeder. This will create an incentive to seek the least expensive procedure available, thus setting up a system that invites increased morbidity and mortality.

We veterinarians in NYC, which are AAHA certified use many safety measures when sterilizing animals such as: Owner consent, IV catheters, IV fluids, IV antibiotics, Licensed technician monitoring, heat support, blood pressure support, vitals monitoring, pain control, and also love. None of the above can be used when done at 8 weeks and 2 pounds.

There are also business consequences to this new legislation. We track the number of puppies and kittens who come to us from pet stores. As of June 1st when this law goes into effect, we will stand to lose approximately \$100,000 annually in hard revenue - just the revenue lost by performing such procedures.

The soft revenue that comes from creating a client-veterinary-pet bond is incalculable. Many sterilized animal owners will not seek veterinary care as a result of the puppy being sterilized already, and thus will not visit the veterinarian. The pet owner will not learn and develop knowledge of wellness and preventative veterinary care for their new pet. This may lead to an increase in viral diseases, flea infestations, tick diseases and heartworm disease, as the compliance of prevention will decrease in the first year of life and possibly beyond.

I would urge you to rethink this spay / neuter legislation. It will have a detrimental effect on our cities pets by creating undo risk of death, illness, pain and suffering that can be mitigated by spaying and neutering later in life.

Thank you,
Marc Siebert, VMD, CVA

April 21, 2015

To: New York City Council Committee on Health
From: Keith Dalessio, Gabby Pets
New York Pet Welfare Association, Vice-President
Re: New York City Pet Shop Legislation and Amendments

Dear New York City Council Committee on Health,

Hi my name is Keith Dalessio and I am a 3rd generation pet shop owner. My dad opened his first store 40 yrs ago. I started going to work with him as a child and grew to learn and fall in love with the business. There's nothing more fulfilling than watching a family bond over their first puppy! I have always had an affinity for animals and I am very passionate about what I do. Hopefully, I can continue the cycle and allow for my daughter the opportunity when she gets older to continue on with the family business if she so chooses.

Unfortunately with the constant bombardment of anti-pet shop bills being passed I don't know that this will be possible. I feel like my livelihood is the target of an egregious attack. An attack rooted in animus, hostility and disdain. It is **no** secret that council members Johnson and Crowley have an agenda to put pet shops out of business. Their ill will towards pet shops is clear from listening, reading and watching over 7 hours of their testimony about these laws.

The pet shop related laws being discussed today are written with no common sense and will result in puppies being harmed, pet store owner's rights being taken away and pet shops going out of business. Proposed ordinance 136, now Local Law No. 7 which will require an 8 week old 2.5 lb puppy to undergo major traumatic abdominal surgery is irresponsible, unethical and amounts to animal cruelty!!! You do not have to be a vet to know the rigors of anesthesia at such a young age pose serious health problems. Puppies will **die** and you will have **blood** on your hands due to Law No. 7!!! Also knowing that many pet shops will not be able to comply with this bill essentially puts a **ban** on the sale of puppies.

Proposed ordinance 55, now Local Law 5 says we can no longer buy puppies from Class B USDA licensees which are our number one source of puppies so this essentially amounts to a **ban** of sales of puppies.

Continue on back

There is **no** evidence that the puppies I sell contribute to overpopulation at local shelters. In fact, Mrs. Weinstock from Animal Care And Control stated under oath that the cause for overpopulated shelters is due to "irresponsible pet ownership". She also stated that Pitbulls account for the majority of dogs in the shelter system. Well guess what? Pet shops don't sell pit bulls!!! If sterilization is the best answer and in the best interest of the pets I sell, then the owner should make that decision with their veterinarian at an age that makes sense and will not cause harm to our puppies and will not cause pet shops to go out of business.

I know Mr. Johnson has said it was his childhood dream to become a vet. I ask you Mr. Johnson, if your dream had come true would you perform surgery knowing that it would cause harm or possibly death to a puppy, because an elected official said you should?

Respectfully Submitted,

Keith Dalessio, Gabby Pets

New York Pet Welfare Association, Vice-President

2324 Grand Concourse, Bronx, NY 10458

718-220-8948

keithdalessio@yahoo.com

My name is John Farina and I am a former teacher who is now currently employed part-time at Zoo-Rama Pets.

The new local laws (#5, 6, 7, 8) seem sloppy to me and show a callous (or ignorant) disregard for the health and well-being of the animals which they claim to care about.

Local Law #5 bans the sale of puppies and kittens from Class B breeders that are approved and inspected by the United States government, or hobby breeders that the US government exempts. This would cut off a major source of pet store puppies and kittens.

I can well understand why Local Law #6 is not on the new amended agenda as it requires young puppies to be forcibly sterilized. This shows a lack of understanding that the gonads are not just for reproduction; they regulate the development of the whole body (including bones and nerves). I've heard animal rights activists say that breeding puppies is like breeding children and putting them in cages. How do they feel about having young puppies forcibly sterilized??

Local Law #8, as written, could require a veterinarian to implant a second microchip instead of first checking to see if one has already been implanted. Two microchips can be a big deal for a young tiny puppy.

I am confused how the definition of "puppy mill" has shifted from bad breeders to any breeders. Some people say that breeding for profits lowers quality, but higher quality earns higher prices. Mistreated puppies will not

look good or act like well-bred puppies. Pet stores and breeders need high quality puppies to have happy customers who will give them recommendations and repeat sales. Pet stores and breeders are often families who help other people build families of their own choice.

Pet stores provide necessary income for the tax-paying owners, employees and businesses that supply them with pet merchandise. They collect sales taxes for the local and state governments, which pay government salaries and benefits. Pet stores also provide necessary services, advice and supplies to their customers who depend on them.

Good pet businesses deserve the good reputations they have earned over long years of hard work. Bad businesses who don't go out of business on their own, can be closed down with already-existing regulations. Lawmakers should not allow special interest groups who use emotional innuendo and inconsistent vocabulary to punish the good along with the bad. Enforce the laws that are already on the books. Tell your representatives in Congress to provide enough funds for the United States government to do its job to make sure breeders and dealers are following already-existing federal standards.

If pet stores are forced to go out of business, people will be shooting each to obtain underground puppies, as they did for alcohol during Prohibition, and the infamous drug wars we've been living with in recent years. Illegal businesses don't worry about the regulations imposed by a (supposedly) civilized society.

Thank you for your time,

John Farina

Neutering Dogs: Effects on Joint Disorders and Cancers in Golden Retrievers

- Gretel Torres de la Riva,
- Benjamin L. Hart,
- Thomas B. Farver,
- Anita M. Oberbauer,
- Locksley L. McV. Messam,
- Neil Willits,
- Lynette A. Hart



- Published: February 13, 2013
- DOI: 10.1371/journal.pone.0055937

Abstract (First Half... see URL below for complete text)

In contrast to European countries, the overwhelming majority of dogs in the U.S. are neutered (including spaying), usually done before one year of age. Given the importance of gonadal hormones in growth and development, this cultural contrast invites an analysis of the multiple organ systems that may be adversely affected by neutering. Using a single breed-specific dataset, the objective was to examine the variables of gender and age at the time of neutering versus leaving dogs gonadally intact, on all diseases occurring with sufficient frequency for statistical analyses. Given its popularity and vulnerability to various cancers and joint disorders, the Golden Retriever was chosen for this study. Veterinary hospital records of 759 client-owned, intact and neutered female and male dogs, 1–8 years old, were examined for diagnoses of hip dysplasia (HD), cranial cruciate ligament tear (CCL), lymphosarcoma (LSA), hemangiosarcoma (HSA), and mast cell tumor (MCT). Patients were classified as intact, or neutered early (<12 mo) or late (\geq 12 mo)....

Discussion (see URL below for complete text)

... The findings presented here are clinically relevant in two realms. For dog owners and service dogs trainers and caretakers using the popular Golden Retriever as the service dog, the study points to the importance of acquiring information needed for deciding upon if and when to neuter. Specifically for Golden Retrievers, neutering males well beyond puberty should avoid the problems of increased rates of occurrence of HD, CCL, and LSA and should not bring on any major increase in the rates of HSA and MCT (at least before nine years of age). However, the possibility that age-related cognitive decline could be accelerated by neutering should be noted [26]. For females, the timing of neutering is more problematical because early neutering significantly increases the incidence rate of CCL from near zero to almost 8 percent, and late neutering increases the rates of HSA to 4 times that of the 1.6 percent rate for intact females and to 5.7 percent for MCT, which was not diagnosed in intact females...

<http://journals.plos.org/plosone/article?id=10.1371/journal.pone.0055937>

NOTE: PLOS ONE is an international, peer-reviewed, open-access, online publication.

Male Golden Retrievers

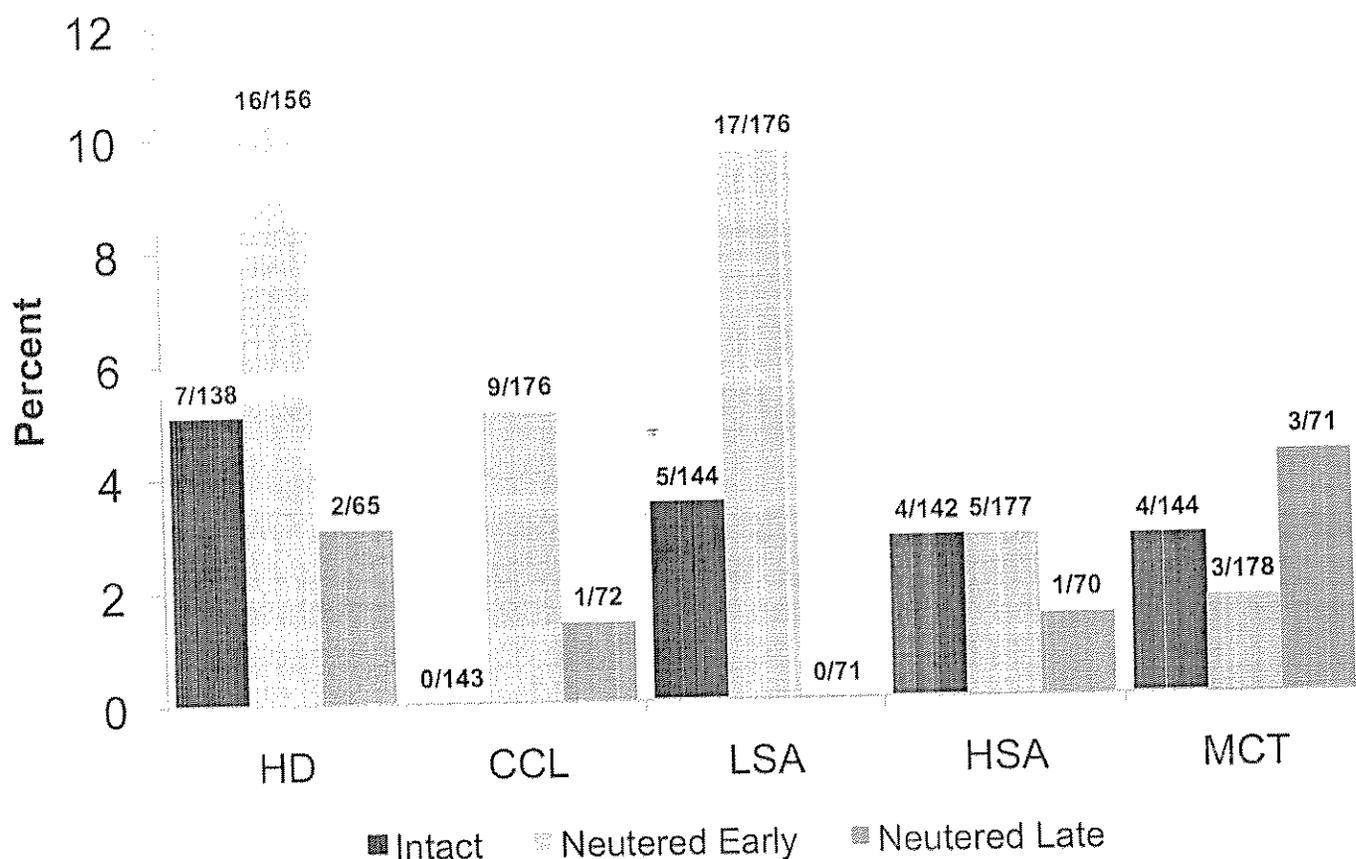


Figure 1. Percentages and number of cases over the total sample size for each neutering status group; intact and neutered early or late for male Golden Retrievers (1–8 years old) diagnosed with hip dysplasia (HD), cranial cruciate ligament tear (CCL), lymphosarcoma (LSA), hemangiosarcoma (HSA), and/or mast cell tumor (MCT) at the Veterinary Medical Teaching Hospital of the University of California, Davis, from 2000–2009.

For HD and LSA, the differences between early-neutered and intact or late-neutered groups were statistically significant (K-M), as were differences for CCL between intact and early-neutered groups.

doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0055937.g001

<http://journals.plos.org/plosone/article?id=10.1371/journal.pone.0055937>

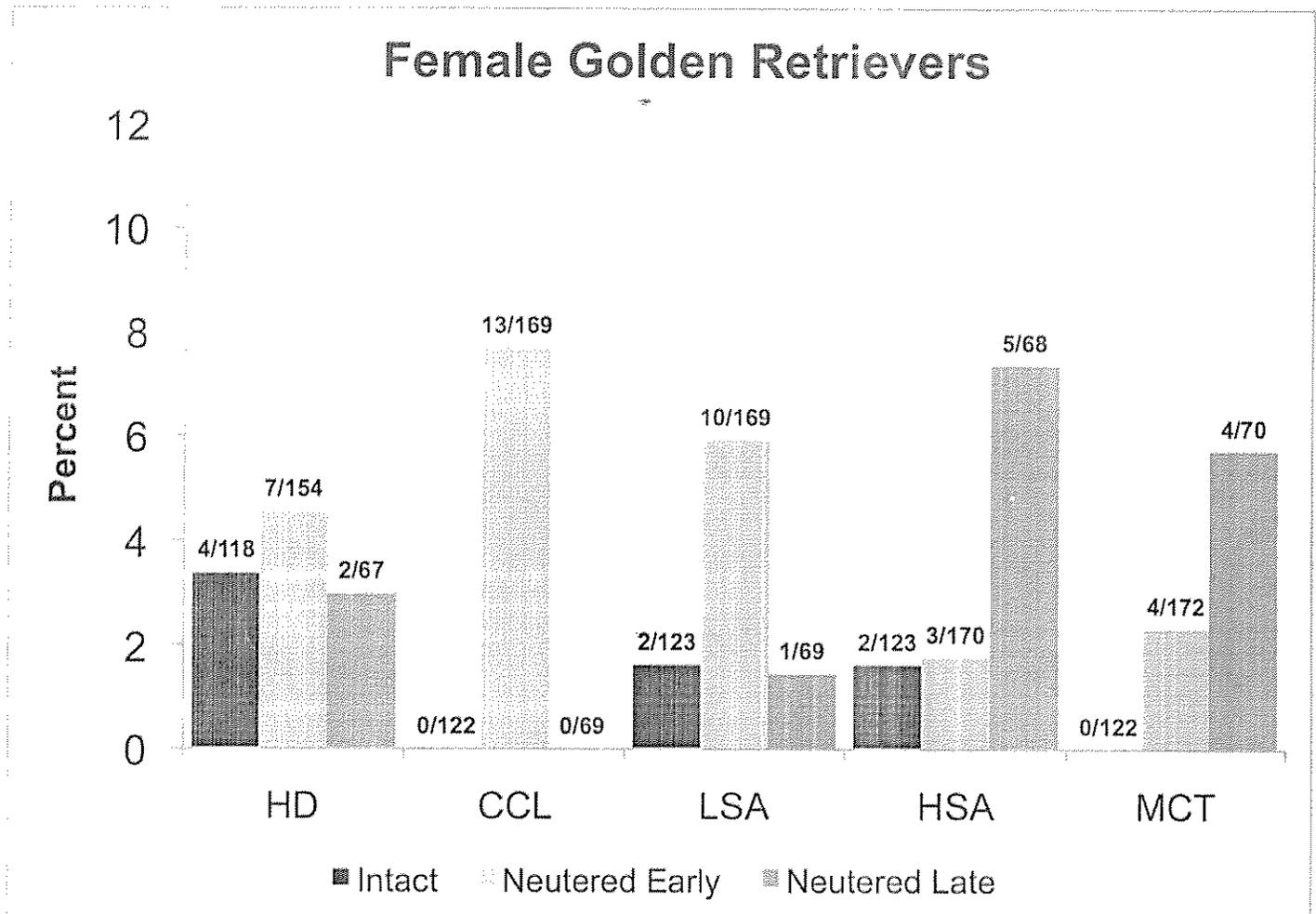


Figure 2. Percentages and number of cases over the total sample size for each neutering status group; intact and neutered early or late for female Golden Retrievers (1–8 years old) diagnosed with hip dysplasia (HD), cranial cruciate ligament tear (CCL), lymphosarcoma (LSA), hemangiosarcoma (HSA), and/or mast cell tumor (MCT) at the Veterinary Medical Teaching Hospital of the University of California, Davis, from 2000–2009.

For CCL the difference between intact and early-neutered was statistically significant (K-M). For HSA, the differences between early and late-neutered and intact and late-neutered groups were statistically significant (RR), as were differences for MCT between early and late-neutered groups. A similar statistical comparison for late neutering and intact groups was not possible for MCT because there were 0 cases in the intact group.

doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0055937.g002

<http://journals.plos.org/plosone/article?id=10.1371/journal.pone.0055937>



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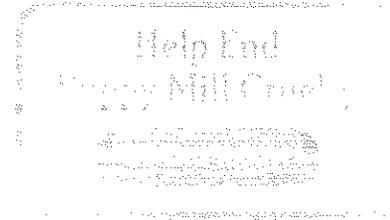
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Puppy Mill & Purebred Dog Rescue

The Animal League partners with other groups to conduct Puppy Mills Rescues — rescues that pull animals out of cruel and inhumane conditions — often rescuing these animals from imminent destruction.

What's so Cruel about Puppy Mills?



As we walk by the window of the pet shop in town, all we see are the cute little puppies. What we don't see are the large, inhumane breeding operations that supply so many pet stores across the U.S. Breeding operations put profit over animal welfare, imprisoning female dogs to breed litter after litter, without proper medical care or human contact.

The conditions in many of these mills are indescribably cruel — many of the puppy mill dogs we rescue have never been cared for, have never been outside a cage, have never been held or felt grass under their feet. All they know are the close, cramped cages that confine them day after day, year after year.

These breeding mother dogs may suffer from genetic problems or chronic medical neglect, arriving at our facility with health problems that our team of veterinarians and behaviorists assess and treat.



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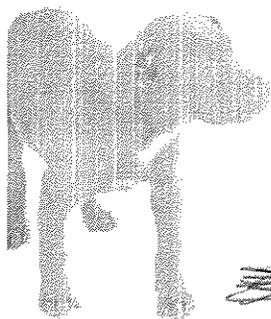
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Rescue and Adoption

Rescuing Animals

We understand that a rescue is not complete until an animal is placed into a permanent home. During the past decade, we have rescued, rehabilitated and adopted an average of 20,000 dogs, puppies, cats and kittens each year. To date, we have saved over 1,000,000 lives, and our advocacy and partnerships have helped to save even more lives.

True to our mission, we continue to build our hands-on rescue, rehabilitation and adoption efforts to save the lives of as many companion animals as possible and promote education to increase shelter adoptions, reduce animal cruelty and advance the highest standards in animal welfare.

There are many ways that the Animal League's Mobile Rescue and Adoption Teams save animals across the United States. Here are just a few:

- Dogs, cats, puppies, and kittens — earmarked for death — are taken out of overcrowded shelters.
- Large numbers of purebred dogs arrive at the Animal League after being liberated from inhumane Puppy Mills.
- Our humane transport efforts bring animals from overpopulated areas, to our NY Metro campus, where they can find permanent homes.
- An emergency response team stands ready to deploy quickly and effectively in the event of natural disasters.

April 21, 2015

To: City Council, The City of New York

RE: New York City Retail Pet Shop Legislation & Amendments

Madam/Mister Chairman, Members of the New York City Council,

Thank you for the opportunity to offer testimony on the NYC retail pet shop legislation and amendments.

Regarding Section 3b: *“No pet shop shall release to a consumer a dog or cat that has not been sterilized by a licensed veterinarian;”*

As a New York City native, and a New York State licensed veterinarian, I urge you not to legislate additional and avoidable medical risk for the most vulnerable of our animal patients, the neonatal puppy or kitten, by requiring elective general anesthesia and surgery at a precarious time of their development. Further, such a requirement will institutionalize the added risk of adverse anesthetic and surgical complications for our veterinarians. The recently passed legislation should be amended to indicate that the decision of whether and when to sterilize be made solely by deliberation between client and veterinarian.

A uniform requirement for early sterilization magnifies the risks of anesthesia in many young and tiny patients, which are inherently more vulnerable to hypothermia, hypoglycemia and the most minimal of blood loss, than more mature animal patients. Too, the technical demands of what amounts to a form of microsurgery may be beyond the surgical comfort zone of many veterinarians. Finally, the immediate post-operative care of these tiny, at-risk patients, ordinarily accomplished in hospital or in the home of their owners, cannot take place properly in a retail pet store environment.

Furthermore, very recent veterinary research has identified significant long-term medical risks for pets undergoing early removal of reproductive organs, which also function as endocrine glands. Long established dogma regarding sterilization has been called into question and as a result, the veterinary profession has been evolving towards a later recommended time for sterilization surgery. This is true because of the added risks of neonatal anesthesia, the developmental benefits of preserving hormonal influences later into development and the suggestion of a positive influence on specific orthopedic and cancerous conditions in later life. Already, for some breeds of dogs, remaining reproductively intact for an extended period of development has been associated with a much longer lifespan.

The movement towards younger sterilization arose in animal shelters where new owners were viewed as unlikely to sterilize their pets after adoption, thus compounding the unwanted animal population. This is a different population of animals by age and a different population of people as compared to retail pet shop customers. The majority of shelter animals are much older than animals sold in pet shops. In such circumstances, the added medical risk to the individual animal was deemed worthy of sacrifice, for the potential benefit of the collective good of reducing future shelter populations.

Yet we choose to electively sterilize animals because the behaviors of sexually intact animals are perceived to reduce their suitability to be household pets. We also choose to electively sterilize

animals because of a societal concern for unwanted litters and healthy animal euthanasia in shelters and pounds. We do not however, sterilize animals because we unquestionably know it is good for them as individuals. That dogma is no longer unquestionably accepted.

Furthermore, puppies and kittens sold at retail pose little risk to shelter populations, because the vast majority of retail pet shop sold animals are ultimately sterilized by private practice veterinarians. This occurs however, as it always has, within the context of the veterinarian-client-patient relationship, with the owner in consultation with their veterinarian, deciding the most appropriate time for such a procedure.

Sterilization surgery is always elective, and with the real risks anesthesia and sterilization surgery pose in this population of patients, pet owners should be able to decide if and when they will pursue such surgery, unencumbered by their government. If delayed sterilization is further proven to increase an animal's lifespan, what will we then say to those owners whose animals did not realize their full life expectancy, or experienced endocrine-deficiency related disorders and conditions in their pet? As a veterinarian, I should not be limited in the way I provide care to my patients and advice to my clients, but continue to retain the professional freedom to communicate the pros and cons of such procedures to owners based upon my professional knowledge and experience. Mandatory sterilization therefore, particularly at such a young age, should not be entered into the law. I urge you to remove this requirement.

Finally, **§ 17-703 (a)(9)(b)** would require a veterinarian to predict the future health of an animal based on what is seen only at its most recent examination, by stating in writing that the animal "*is not likely to require hospitalization or non-elective surgical procedures in the future.*" An examination is at best, a snapshot in time of an animal's current, immediate health. A veterinarian cannot predict, in the case of acquired or sub-clinical illness or condition, whether hospitalization or surgery would be required in the future. I urge you to also strike this requirement. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Arnold L. Goldman DVM, MPH
NYPWA Veterinary Advisory Council

198 Albany Turnpike
Canton, CT 06019

And

26 Wetmore Road
Staten Island, NY 10301

(860) 693-9300
drgoldman@cantonanimalhospital.com

April 21, 2015

To: New York City Council Committee on Health

From: Cynthia Daluise, Arcadia Pets, NYPWA

Re: New York City Pet Shop Legislation and Amendments

Dear New York City Council Committee on Health,

My name is Cynthia Daluise. Together my husband and I have owned Arcadia Pets for 25 years. A family business.. and we have 3 children who have been raised from birth to love and care for animals. We are both native New Yorkers who have put our blood, sweat and tears into building this small business into something that we can support our family on. This may sound cliché..but this isn't just a job to us, it's a lifestyle.

From fish to snakes to birds or puppies, there is nothing we care about more than making sure those animals are properly cared for and look to find them homes where they will receive the same love and care they get from us.

We pride ourselves on the time and care we put into the welfare our animals and the happiness of our clients. I have spent 25 years building relationships with other animal professionals who I trust and have known personally to make sure I am confident that they would never put profit over the importance of an puppy's and their parent's wellbeing. I would never tolerate or condone harm to an animal. But your law banning sales from USDA Class B Licensees, from whom I obtain all my puppies will put me out of business.

But you do not seem to care about that. The puppies you claim you are protecting will be the real victims under the law you failed to amend. Your mandate to sterilize dogs and cats before sale means puppies as young as 8-12 weeks will undergo general anesthesia and major abdominal surgery which will certainly result in the death of at least some of them, according to my veterinarian, all for an elective surgery.

Continued on back

I submit here two letters from veterinarians that say QUOTE “At no time would an elective sterilization be performed in a puppy less than 6 months old.” And “It is not in their best interest to be under anesthesia at such a premature age and is something that will never be done at my practice” End Quote

To take this decision out of the hands of qualified licensed veterinarians and the pet owners is unconscionable and violates state laws.

I urge you to reconsider the amendments here and strike the mandatory spay requirement, and the ban on Class B licensees.

If not, harm will come to the health and welfare of innocent puppies and the livelihood of thousands of hard-working, law-abiding families, both pet store owners and the animal professionals they deal with who can and do tend to the care and wellbeing of these puppies.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cynthia Daluise, Arcadia Pets, NYPWA

4371 A Amboy Rd

Staten Island, NY 10312

arcadiapets@gmail.com

917-699-7535

St. Francis Animal Hospital

of Staten Island

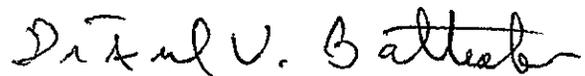
4364 Amboy Road
Staten Island, NY 10312
(718) 967-2495

To whom it may concern;

I have been a Small animal practicing Veterinarian now for 23 years. I own a practice in Brooklyn, and another in Staten Island. I have performed Spays and Neuters routinely in both my practices, as well as in low cost Spay/Neuter Facilities. I strongly disagree with the recommendation to Spay and Castrate all puppies at 8 weeks of age. The time to spay or castrate a dog is a medical decision based on several factors. Each client I see gets a specific plan. That Plan is based on Breed and size of pet, anatomical conformation of reproductive area as a puppy, and a plan based on the overall best medical concerns for that pet and its owner. This is not a decision that should have any involvement by legislation, or government intervention and control. This law will not only take medical decisions out of the hands of the Licensed Veterinarian and the owner, but it will also cause medical problems for these pets in the future.

Sincerely;

Dr. Frank V Battiato



**St. Francis Animal Hospital
of Staten Island**
4364 Amboy Road
Staten Island, NY 10312
Ph (718)967-2495 F (718)967-2497

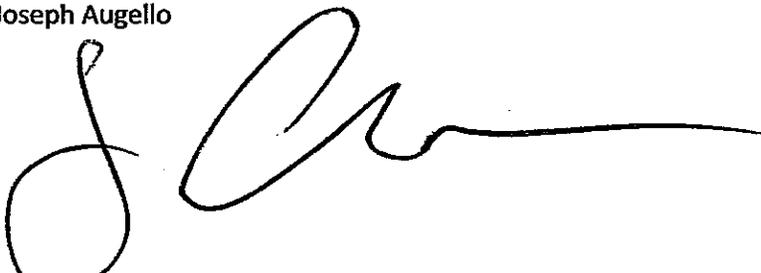
4/16/2015

To Whom it May Concern,

My name is Dr Joseph Augello, I am a small animal veterinarian/ practice owner in Staten Island New York. I regularly perform elective spays and neuters at my practice. Every elective sterilization procedure is carefully planned around each individual's best interest. Smaller breed dogs and cats can be spayed at a minimum age of 6 months old, large breeds at 8 months old. Due to differences in some patients sometimes we need to postpone sterilization or even advise against it. At no time would an elective sterilization be performed in a puppy less than 6 months old, anesthetic complications would be far more common as well as potential for lifelong health problems ie urinary tract infections, spay incontinence, orthopedic abnormalities etc. These puppies and kittens need their hormones for healthy development. It is not in their best interest to be under general anesthesia for an elective procedure at such a premature age and is something that will never be done at my practice. Please feel free to contact me at any time for further discussion.

Respectfully,

Dr. Joseph Augello

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Augello', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

April 21, 2015

TO: New York City Council Committee on Health

From: Michael Glass, APRI National Field Rep

New York Pet Welfare Association, Sec

Re: New York City Pet Shop Legislation and Amendments

Dear New York City Council Committee on Health,

My name is Michael Glass. I am a National Field representative for America's Pet Registry, Inc...recognized by New York State Ag and Markets. And the Secretary for the New York Pet Welfare Association

After reviewing the proposed amendments to the pet shop laws, it is very obvious that the amendments do not address the concerns raised by pet stores, USDA licensees, exempt breeders and veterinarians previously provided to the Council. As a hobby breeder, exempt from USDA licensure I will be banned from selling puppies to NYC pet stores.

I have four breeding female Newfoundlands. My breeding practices and care for my dogs is second to none...and I dare anyone to prove otherwise. I have an open door policy and invite anyone of you to visit.

As a dog breeder for over 35 years, animal lover and animal care giver... I am astonished that the Council has not shown any consideration to testimony and data presented about the harm resulting from mandatory sterilization as young as 8 weeks of age.

It is clear that your intent is to harm pet stores, and USDA licensees and those exempt from licensing...The Council is willing to sacrifice innocent puppies and kittens in the process.

I am not alone knowing that mandating the neonatal sterilization of dogs... is more than irresponsible...it is cruel.

My personal veterinarian agrees...and you will have heard testimony from other veterinarians today that also agree. The ASPCA is opposed to mandatory spay & neuter. The American Veterinary Medical Association is opposed to mandatory Spay & Neuter. At a previous hearing the New York State Veterinary Medical Society testified to its concerns on the same issue.

Continued on back

You have ignored documentation about the negative health effects of early sterilization that others and I have previously submitted at two prior public hearings and at a private meeting with Bob Likens, PIJAC and Mike Stolkey, the Hunte Corporation and the Committee's Counsel. I resubmit that documentation today.

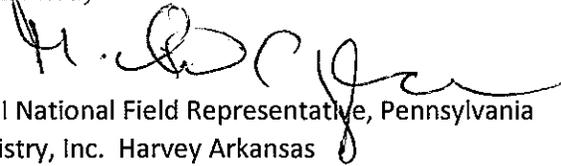
It is clear that the sponsors of these laws want to close down pet stores and distributors. New York State law does not allow you to ban the sale of dogs and cats and that is exactly what these laws are doing.

The laws ban pet stores from buying puppies and kittens from USDA Class B licensees or exempt breeders. Since this is the source of the majority of pets for many stores, by default, this acts as a ban.

I have entered my testimony in writing at every previous meeting...as I do so AGAIN today.

I will always remain optimistic that these ill-written and ill-advised ordinances will be amended appropriately.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "M. Glass", written over the typed name.

Michael Glass APRI National Field Representative, Pennsylvania
America's Pet Registry, Inc. Harvey Arkansas
New York Pet Welfare Association, Secretary
contact@nypetwelfare.org
mg@aprpets.org
484-880-7962

§ 2. Title 17 of the administrative code of the city of New York is amended as follows:

§17-1702 Prohibited sales. a. It shall be unlawful in any pet shop for any person to display, offer for sale, deliver, barter, auction, give away, transfer or sell any dog or cat knowingly obtained from:

1. any source that did not hold a valid license issued by the United States department of agriculture pursuant to 7 U.S.C. § 2131, et seq., unless otherwise exempted, or successor provision of law as such information is available from the United States department of agriculture as of the date such pet shop received such animal or animals; or

2. ~~a broker; or~~

3. a dealer or breeder unless as of the date such pet shop received such animal or animals, such dealer or breeder:

(a) held a valid and active class A or class B license issued by the United States department of agriculture pursuant to 7 U.S.C. §2131, et seq., unless otherwise exempted, or successor provision of law, and such license had not been suspended at any time during the prior five years, as such information is available from the United States department of agriculture; and

(b) had not received any of the following:

(i) a finally determined "direct" non-compliant violation pursuant to 7 U.S.C. §2131, et seq., or successor provision of law ~~item citation as indicated on any United States department of agriculture inspection report~~ in connection with such license at any time during the prior ~~three~~two years, as such information is available from the United States department of agriculture; or

(ii) a finally determined citation for willful failure to provide inspectors access to property or records as required pursuant to 9 C.F.R. §2.126, or successor regulations, as indicated on either of the

Amendments to Local Law No. 5 of 2015 (Int. No. 55-A)

two most recent United States department of agriculture inspection reports in connection with such license, as such information is available from the United States department of agriculture; or

(iii) three or more distinct finally determined non-compliant indirect violations pursuant to 7 U.S.C. §2131, et seq., or successor provision of law ~~item citations~~, other than ~~eitations-violations~~ for failure to provide inspectors access to property or records as required pursuant to 9 C.F.R. §2.126, or successor regulations, ~~as indicated on the most recent United States department of agriculture inspection report~~ in connection with such license, at any time during the prior two years, as such information is available from the United States department of agriculture; or

(iv) ~~one or more finally determined repeat noncompliant item citations as indicated on the most recent United States department of agriculture inspection report in connection with such license as such information is available from the United States department of agriculture; or~~

(v) a finally determined order to cease and desist, issued by an administrative law judge, in connection with such license, at any time during the prior five years, as information about such enforcement actions is available from the United States department of agriculture; or

(vi) a finally determined order to pay a civil penalty, issued by an administrative law judge, in connection with such license, at any time during the prior five years, as information about such enforcement actions is available from the United States department of agriculture; and

(c) provided to such pet shop a sworn affidavit attesting that such dealer or breeder had not been convicted of a violation of the minimum standards of animal care provided for in section four hundred one of the agriculture and markets law at any time during the prior five years; and

(d) provided to such pet shop a sworn affidavit attesting that prior to delivering such animal or animals into the custody of such pet shop such dealer or breeder had never been convicted of an animal abuse crime.

b. It shall be unlawful for any pet shop to display, offer for sale, deliver, barter, auction, give away, transfer or sell any rabbit.

c. A pet shop that allows an animal shelter or non-profit rescue group to use such pet shop's premises for the purpose of making animals available for adoption shall not be deemed to be engaged in any conduct otherwise prohibited pursuant to this section with respect to such animals, provided such pet shop does not have an ownership interest in such animals. A pet shop shall not be deemed to be engaged in any conduct otherwise prohibited pursuant to this section with respect to animals it surrenders to a non-profit shelter or animal rescue group, so long as such pet shop does not derive a fee therefor.

§17-1703 Required information for the purchaser. a. Every pet shop shall deliver to the purchaser of a cat or dog, at the time of sale, or to the prospective purchaser of a cat or dog upon request, in a standardized form prescribed by the commissioner, a written statement containing the following information:

1. The animal's breed, sex, color, identifying marks, and if microchipped, the microchip manufacturer's registration instructions. If the pet shop obtained the animal from a United States department of agriculture licensed dealer, the individual identifying tag, tattoo, or collar number for that animal. If the breed is unknown or mixed, the record shall so indicate. If the animal is being sold as being capable of registration, the names and registration numbers of the sire and dam, and the litter number, if known;

Amendments to Local Law No. 5 of 2015 (Int. No. 55-A)

2. The breeder's name, address, and federal identification number;
3. If the person from whom the animal was obtained is a dealer who is not the breeder, such dealer's name, address, and federal identification number;
4. The date of such animal's birth and the date the pet shop received such animal. The date of birth may be approximated if not known by the seller if:
 - (a) such animal is a cat; or
 - (b) such animal is a dog, and such dog is not advertised or sold as a purebred, registered or registrable;
5. A written statement that the ~~breeder-dealer~~ has not received any finally determined "direct" non-compliant violations pursuant to 7 U.S.C. §2131, et seq., or successor provision of law item citations as indicated on any United States department of agriculture inspection report in connection with such ~~breederdealer's~~ license at any time during the prior ~~three~~two years, as such information is available from the United States department of agriculture at the time of sale;
6. If the animal is a dog, notification that dogs residing in New York state must be licensed, and that a license may be obtained from the municipality in which the dog resides;
7. A record of immunizations and worming treatments administered, if any, to the animal as of the time of sale while the animal was in the possession of the pet shop, including the dates of administration and the type of vaccines or worming treatments administered;
8. A record of any known disease, sickness, or congenital condition that adversely affects the health of the animal at the time of sale;

9. A copy of such animal's United States interstate and international certificate of health examination for small animals, if available, and the dealer or breeder's United States department of agriculture inspection reports for the last three years;

10. A record of any veterinary treatment or medication received by the animal while in the pet shop's possession and either of the following:

(a) A statement, signed by the pet shop at the time of sale, indicating that, to the pet shop's knowledge: (i) the animal has no disease or illness; and (ii) the animal has no congenital or hereditary condition that adversely affects the health of the animal at the time of sale; or

(b) A record of any known congenital or hereditary condition, disease, or illness that adversely affects the health of the animal at the time of sale, along with a statement signed by a licensed veterinarian that authorizes the sale of the animal, recommends necessary treatment, if any, and verifies that the condition, disease or illness does not require hospitalization or nonelective surgical procedures, ~~and is not likely to require hospitalization or nonelective surgical procedures in the future.~~ A veterinarian statement is not required for intestinal or external parasites unless their presence makes or is likely to make the animal clinically ill. The statement shall be valid for fourteen business days following examination of the animal by the veterinarian; and

11. A statement of the purchaser's rights under article thirty-five-D of the New York state general business law in a form prescribed pursuant to rules promulgated by the department.

b. A disclosure made to a purchaser pursuant to subdivision a of this section shall be signed by both the pet shop certifying the accuracy of the statement, and the purchaser acknowledging receipt of the statement.

Amendments to Local Law No. 5 of 2015 (Int. No. 55-A)

c. Every pet shop shall post conspicuously, within close proximity to the cages of dogs and cats offered for sale, notices containing the following language in one hundred-point type: "Information on the source of these dogs and cats and the veterinary treatments received by these dogs and cats is available for review by prospective purchasers. United States Department of Agriculture inspection reports are available upon request."

d. Any pet shop offering a dog or cat for sale, barter, auction, give away or transfer shall, upon request by a prospective purchaser, make available to such prospective purchaser the two most recent United States department of agriculture inspection reports for the breeder of such dog or cat, as such reports were available from the United States department of agriculture at the time such pet shop obtained such animal. At the request of such prospective purchaser, such pet shop shall provide physical copies of such inspection reports, provided however, that such pet shop may require reimbursement for copying expenses pursuant to rules promulgated by the department.

§17-1704 Recordkeeping. a. Each pet shop shall keep and maintain records and documentation for each dog or cat purchased, acquired, held, sold, or otherwise disposed of with respect to the purchase, sale, dealers, transportation, breeding, medical care and condition, identification, and previous ownership of such animal. Each pet shop shall keep and maintain such records and documentation for a period of ~~ten~~ two years from the date such pet shop acquired each such dog or cat.

b. Such documentation and records shall be made available upon request for inspection and copying by the department or other persons authorized by law to enforce the provisions of this chapter.

Consistent with the New York state technology law, the department may promulgate rules for the production, receipt, acceptance, acquisition, recording, filing, transmission, forwarding, and storage of

Amendments to Local Law No. 5 of 2015 (Int. No. 55-A)

such records and documentation by use of electronic means. Such records and documentation shall include the following information:

1. Proof of purchase, adoption, or acceptance of such animal evincing the source from which such pet shop obtained such animal;

2. The breeder's name, address, and federal identification number, and if the source from which the pet shop obtained such animal is a person other than the breeder, such person's name, address, and federal identification number;

3. Such animal's individual identifying tag, tattoo, or collar number;

4. The date of the animal's birth, the date the pet shop received the animal, and the location where the animal was received. If the animal is not advertised or sold as a purebred, registered or registrable, the date of birth may be approximated if not known by the seller;

5. The animal's breed, sex, color and identifying marks at the time of sale. If the breed is unknown or mixed, the record shall so indicate;

6. A copy of any written statement provided to the purchaser pursuant to section 17-1703 of this title; and

7. The name and address of the person to whom the animal was sold or given for adoption.

8. Any statement or certification provided to a pet store by a shelter, rescue, or other source stating that such animal has been implanted with a microchip for permanent identification.

9. A copy of any statement or certificate of registration relating to microchip identification provided to the purchaser pursuant to section 17-815 of this title.

Amendments to Local Law No. 5 of 2015 (Int. No. 55-A)

10. A copy of any record a dealer is required to include with the shipment of an animal pursuant to the animal welfare act, 7 U.S.C. § 2131, et seq., or successor provision of law, and the rules promulgated thereunder.

11. Such other records and documentation as deemed necessary by the commissioner in accordance with rules promulgated by the department.

c. In addition to the documentation and records required under subdivision a of this section, every pet shop shall keep and maintain the following records for transactions involving one or more dogs:

If such a dog is being sold as registered or capable of being registered with an animal pedigree registry organization, the names and registration numbers of the sire and dam, and the litter number, if known;

1. If the pet shop has released a dog to a purchaser without first submitting a license application, a written statement provided by the purchaser stating that the dog is to be harbored outside the city and such proof as the commissioner may require indicating that such purchaser resides outside the city.

Amendments Local Law No. 7 of 2015 (Int. No. 136-A)

Subdivisions b and c of section 17-804 of the administrative code of the city of New York, as added by local law number 26 for the year 2000, are amended to read as follows:

b. No pet shop shall release to a consumer a dog or cat that has not been sterilized by a licensed veterinarian without informing the consumer of the pros and cons of spay/neuter in a format approved by the Commissioner of Health. If sterilized, sSuch veterinarian shall provide to the pet shop a certificate, in such form and manner as determined by rules promulgated by the department, stating the date on which such sterilization was performed.

c. Every pet shop, in accordance with rules promulgated by the department, shall maintain records of all sales of dogs and cats, sterilization procedures performed at the request of the pet shop, and veterinarian letters and certificates received, and shall retain such records, letters and certificates for a period of two ~~five~~ years. Such records, letters, and certificates shall be made available to the department according to rules promulgated by the department. The department may require that such documents be submitted by electronic means.

Section 1. Chapter 8 of title 17 of the administrative code of the city of New York is amended to read as follows:

§ 17-815 Microchipping required. a. No pet shop, animal rescue group or non-profit rescue group shall release a dog or cat to a purchaser unless

(1) such animal has been implanted with a microchip as a permanent identification by a licensed veterinarian; or

(2) a veterinarian can certify that an animal has a pre-existing, fully registerable, functioning microchip instead of injecting a second microchip, and

(3) such pet shop, animal rescue group, or non-profit rescue group has registered such animal's microchip with such purchaser's contact information with a bona fide pet microchip registration company; and

(4) such pet shop, animal rescue group or non-profit rescue group has provided such purchaser with (i) usage instructions for such microchip provided by the manufacturer of such microchip or the company with which such microchip is registered and (ii) written certification of compliance with paragraphs one and two of this subdivision, signed by such purchaser as acknowledgement of receipt, in a form and manner set forth in rules promulgated by the department.

b. Every pet shop, animal rescue group or non-profit rescue group shall retain for a period of ten two years from the date of sale of any dog or cat, a copy of the certification signed by the purchaser required by paragraph three of subdivision a of this section.

Amendments to Local Law No. 8 of 2015 (Int. No. 146-A)

c. A pet shop that allows an animal shelter or non-profit rescue to use such pet shop's premises for the purpose of making animals available for adoption shall be exempt from the requirements of subdivisions a and b of this section with respect to such animals, provided such pet shop does not have an ownership interest in any of the animals that are being made available for adoption, and the pet shop does not derive a fee for providing such adoption services.

§ 2. This local law shall take effect on June 1, 2015, except that the commissioner shall take such measures as are necessary for its implementation, including the promulgation of rules, prior to such effective date.

April 21, 2015

To: The New York City Council Committee on Health

From: Michael Stolkey
Hunte Corporation
Roy Hill Blvd, Goodman MO 64843
417-364-8597
mstolkey@huntec corp.com

Re: New York City Pet Shop Legislation and Amendments

Dear City Council Committee on Health,

In the 30's, Joseph Goebbels, the propaganda minister of Nazi Germany, essentially believed that if one says something long enough and loud enough, people will believe it. Today, the Animal Rights extremists artfully embrace this same tactic. Their animus against us and the pet retailers, which you have clearly adopted - fueled by an alternative agenda -- is largely void of science and facts. Worse, ordinances like yours designed to protect animals and consumers have the opposite effect! Breeders simply sell over the internet, go underground, and /or the rescues and shelters replace the purchasing power of the retailers. I am not aware of ONE single USDA licensed breeders that has shut down in spite of 60+ retail bans across the country.

Thankfully, there ARE some legislators who actually conduct their own due diligence. Example: these very same extremists were recently pressing their agenda in Virginia. Shortly thereafter, we received an email from a senator's aide stating - *and I quote*: **“The Senator was deceived by the activists for about a day. Once he found out that they were disseminating false information, he has never trusted them again. While most citizens genuinely want to protect animals from abuse and neglect, the extreme animal rights folks who storm Richmond believe the end justifies the means AND, if it means lying, cheating or spreading falsehoods, they are OK with that.”** I couldn't have said it better

But since this is NYC, let me bring this closer to home. In a previous hearing my company was slammed in testimony, much like in Virginia, totally without merit, facts or science.

1. For example: ONE **former** retailer from PA, Michael Gill, who had just recently converted to a rescue operation,-was brought here, to testify. These are some of his lies:
 - He said Hunte falsifies documents. The ONLY thing false here is his statement. We are both state and federally licensed, thus regulated, inspected AND FULLY compliant with all animal welfare laws. This council insults all government inspectors because IF his allegations were true, we would either lose our license or be cited.

1. Continued

- He described our alleged operational protocols, without ever having set foot in our building. How can he become such an expert to a process he never witnessed?
- He said that 70% of our puppies were sick for up to 2 weeks. We do not provide sick puppies. Any illnesses in his stores for 2 weeks resulted from his failure to provide proper care, not ours. The fact is, IF true, we would NOT be in business and consequently, there would be no need for a ban based on these smears and innuendos.
- The fact that this council banned sales from Class B licensees makes you complicit with the defamatory statements from Gill and others making similar statements at these public hearings.

Accepting defamatory testimony about Hunte, you entirely banned the sales from Class B dealers to pet stores in New York City, violating our constitutional rights YES, we will fight you in court and win as we already did against the HSUS years ago.

Chairperson Johnson testified, on November 24, 2014

“Several witnesses at our last hearing testified that brokers can be bad actors who obscure the true source of an animal and provides cover for puppy and kitten mills.”

Council member Crowley testified on November 24, 2014

“Proposed Introduction No. 55-A . . . prohibits the sale of cats and dogs obtained from brokers, who as middle men give pet stores the ability to plead ignorance about the breeders that produce the animals they sell. And make false claims that they are puppy mill free.”

When questioning ASPCA Cori Menkin on April 30, 2014, Chairperson Johnson asked “if you could explain why the ASPCA believes we should limit the sale of animals obtained from brokers like the Hunt [sic] Corporation.”

Accepting ASPCA’s defamatory testimony about Hunte, you entirely banned the sales from Class B dealers to pet stores in New York City, violating our constitutional rights.

Respectfully,

Michael Stolkey, Hunte Corporation



FOR THE RECORD

Honorable Bill de Blasio
Mayor, New York City
City Hall Park
New York, NY

I am writing this letter to respectfully express my professional opinion about the recently passed law, which requires pet stores to neuter and spay pets before they are sold. I do commend the effort to control indiscriminate breeding and the over population of the city pets shelters, however, I am fully convinced that this law focuses on the wrong issue, and will do nothing more than exposing these pets to unnecessary surgical risks and other health consequences from early sterilization.

It is clear that puppies purchased at pet stores in NYC are not the ones overpopulating the city shelters. It is my experience that the vast majority of pet ownership that starts at a pet store is approached in a conscious way and after months of meticulous planning, consequently these pets end up in loving households and become an important part of the owner's life.

Being able to participate in the training of a dog at an early age is instrumental in order to avoid behavioral problems as they mature. This practice alone decreases the chances of pets being surrendered at a shelter more than any other. And every study available points towards behavioral problems as the number one cause of pet surrenders to the shelters.

Furthermore, early sterilization is associated with obesity, female incontinence and joint problems, among other health issues. For these reasons, there is a new trend among those who understand the reproductive cycle and the effect of hormones to delay the time of sterilization to closer to the first female cycle.

I strongly feel that, by forcing stores to get involved in early neuter/spay procedures, you are pressuring them into performing this complex and serious procedure in a cost conscious way. The ultimate consequence of this practice will be substandard quality of care, that can harm the life of these puppies very early on.

I am sure that there are other ways in which you can accomplish the goal of decreasing the shelter population and indiscriminate breeding practices out of our state - forcing pet stores and puppies into early sterilization is not the right choice. I welcome the opportunity to have a serious dialogue about this issue to avoid risking the life of these puppies for political reasons.

Best regards,

Francisco DiPolo, DVM, CVA

Presented at the Health Committee hearing April 21, 2015:

My name is John F. Sangiorgio, I am former president of the city veterinary association (VMA of NYC), and a present board member. I am a veterinarian in private practice in New York City. I also work for HBO caring for the animals in their 'Boardwalk Empire' and 'Newsroom' productions.

As I understand the issue is pet overpopulation, and is mandatory pediatric sterilization as described in 0136-2014 the best way to remedy this problem?

The brief answer is no.

Facts:

The practice of veterinary medicine is dictated under state law; meaning veterinarians are answerable to the NYS Dept of Education under NYS article 135 §6700 to 6714

Although the AVMA (American Veterinary Medical Association) has sanctioned pediatric sterilization 20 years ago, recent research should be considered when creating a new law:

- 1) Small Animal Anesthesia Techniques (Jan 2014) Shelby+McKune: examining weight as risk factors.
- 2) JAVMA (Journal of the American Veterinary Medical Association) 2008; 33 (7) 1096-104: examining fatalities during anesthesia.
- 3) JAVMA 2009; 186 (2) 152-61: examining risk factors
- 4) Br. J Anaesthesia 2007; 99 (5) 617-23: examining fatalities in small animals

Analysis:

As veterinarians we make decisions based on science. Pure science and mathematics dictates that pediatric sterilization would indeed reduce the pet population; but it would do that in a cruel manor, causing unnecessary suffering, pain and fatalities.

Conclusion:

There are better, more humane methods to control pet overpopulation than pediatric sterilization. I would not undergo general anesthesia and surgery on the advice of the City Council; and neither would I subject my patients to that. I thank the Councilmen for taking interest in animal matters.

John F Sangiorgio DVM

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: _____

Name: JOHN F. SANGIORGIO (PLEASE PRINT)

Address: 1293-CLOVE RD

I represent: VETERINARY MEDICAL ASSOC.

Address: _____

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: _____

Name: Marc Seibert (PLEASE PRINT)

Address: 257 W. 18TH ST.

I represent: Heart of Chelsea

Address: 257 W. 18TH ST

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. 5678 Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: 4/21/15

Name: Dale Bau +lett (PLEASE PRINT)

Address: 1616 Fremont Ave

I represent: HSUS

Address: 2100 L St NW, Washington DC

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: _____

Name: KENNY HUAN (PLEASE PRINT)

Address: 35-15 PRINCE ST.

I represent: NY PWA

Address: _____

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: 4/21/15

Name: CORI MENKIN (PLEASE PRINT)

Address: _____

I represent: ASPCA

Address: 520 8th AVE

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. 136A Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: 4/21/15

Name: LINDA JACOBSON DVM (PLEASE PRINT)

Address: 60 E 8th ST - 11K

I represent: AVMA, NYS VMS

Address: _____

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK

Pet Shop

Appearance Card

Pc 5678

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: _____

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: JAMES EARLE

Address: Bronx N.Y.

I represent: _____

Address: _____

THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK

Pet Shop

Appearance Card

Pc 5678
55A
136A

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: 4/21/75

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Regina McCann

Address: 26 Meadowbrook Rd. Pleasantville

I represent: Amy L. Hinton DUM

Address: _____

THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: _____

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: HARSHA PERERA

Address: 2566 E. Tremat Av Boro. N.Y.

I represent: New York Pet Welfare Association

Address: Same

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: 4/21/15

Name: JANE HOFFMAN (PLEASE PRINT)

Address: _____

I represent: Mayor's Alliance for NYC's Animals

Address: 244 5th Ave Suite R290 MC 10001

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: _____

Name: David Barton (PLEASE PRINT)

Address: 45 Christopher Street

I represent: Citizens

Address: 147 8th Avenue

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: / /

Name: Stephanie Janeczko (PLEASE PRINT)

Address: _____

I represent: Veterinarian, with ASPCA

Address: _____

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: _____

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Michelle Villagomez

Address: _____

I represent: ASPCA

Address: _____

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. 12015-287 Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: 4/21/15

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: STUART Goldenhorns D.V.M

Address: 47-04 GREENPOINT AVENUE

I represent: SUNNYSIDE ANIMAL CLINIC

Address: 47-04 GREENPOINT AVENUE

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. 136 Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: 4/21/15

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Allan Bregman

Address: 225 52nd Ave Brooklyn

I represent: Veterinary Medical Ass of NYC

Address: Association

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

[]

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____
 in favor in opposition

Date: April 21, 2015

(PLEASE PRINT)
Name: John Farina
Address: 1512 Lurting Ave, BX
I represent: Zoo-Rama Pets
Address: 2566 East Tremont Ave BX

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

Pet Store
Veterinary

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____
 in favor in opposition

Date: 4/21/15

(PLEASE PRINT)
Name: DAVID Halpern, DVM
Address: 86-37 Lefferts Blvd Richmond Hill NY 11414
I represent: Lefferts Animal Hospital
Address: self

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

[]

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____
 in favor in opposition

Date: _____

(PLEASE PRINT)
Name: ANN LETTIS
Address: _____
I represent: _____
Address: _____

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: _____

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Steven Weinstein

Address: 24 Rd Grasslands Woodh NY

I represent: Pet Shops

Address: _____

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. 55/136

in favor in opposition

Date: _____

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: L. H. H. D. D. D.

Address: 400 Linn St

I represent: Incident Pet Shop

Address: 4371 Amboy Rd SE NY 11031

**THE COUNCIL Pet Shops
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: _____

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Kath Alford

Address: _____

I represent: _____

Address: _____

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

Proposed
5-6-7-8

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. 55-A

in favor in opposition

Date: 4/21/2015

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: MICHAEL Stolley

Address: 121 N. Royhill Blvd. Goodman MD

I represent: The Hunter Corporation

Address: (See above)

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Pet Shops

Appearance Card

Proposed
5-6-7-8

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. 55-A

in favor in opposition

Date: 4.21.2015

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Michael Glass

Address: 1927 IRENE CT

I represent: New York Pet Welfare Assoc

Address: Americas Pet Registry Inc

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Pet Shops

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. 55/136

in favor in opposition

Date: _____

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Angelina Sherman

Address: 338 Brechtfield Ave SE NJ 10308

I represent: Arcadia Pets - Dr Arnold Goldman

Address: 4371 Ambury Rd SE NJ 10312

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

SPEAKING-RE
PET SHOPS ON
BEHALF OF THE AKC
& RDOA OF NY

THE COUNCIL THE CITY OF NEW YORK

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. 7

in favor in opposition

Date: _____

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: ANN LETTIS

Address: 91 WIMAN AVE

I represent: RDOA OF NY + AKC

Address: 350 MADISON AVE

THE COUNCIL THE CITY OF NEW YORK

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: 04/21/15

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Boris Zektser

Address: 1302 Ave Y APT 1A

I represent: Pet Shops Puppy Paw Service, Inc.

Address: 34-33 Rockaway Blvd Ozone Park

M. Pet Shops

THE COUNCIL THE CITY OF NEW YORK

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. ✓

in favor in opposition

Date: 4/21/15

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: NAAM GURRAM

Address: 1625 ENCLAWA AVE #35 BROOKLYN NY 11235

I represent: Vet Vittle's

Address: 2020 AVE X BROOKLYN NY 11235

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

Pet Shop

THE COUNCIL THE CITY OF NEW YORK

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: _____

(PLEASE PRINT)
Name: Gary Nudelman
Address: 3903 Lync Ave Brooklyn NY
I represent: myself + NY PWA
Address: _____

THE COUNCIL THE CITY OF NEW YORK

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. 3B Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: _____

(PLEASE PRINT)
Name: BESHoy RAFLA, DVM
Address: ~~4511th~~ 2540 Shore Blvd, 14 N
Asta. - 11102, NY
I represent: _____
Address: _____

THE COUNCIL THE CITY OF NEW YORK

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: _____

(PLEASE PRINT)
Name: Tina Sammon
Address: 6425 Broadway # 9b bx 10471
I represent: Trio Manhattan Chapter
Address: PO Box 53 Lenox Hill Station
NY NY 10022

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: 4-21-15

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: JAMES TARDAS

Address: live ON NY - 460 W 34th St

I represent: live ON NY

Address: _____

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: 4/21/15

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Kayoko Honma

Address: 150 Columbus Ave #27A NYC, NY 10023

I represent: LIVE ON NY

Address: _____

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: 4/21/15

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Helen Irving

Address: 117 W 77th St NY NY 10024

I represent: LIVE ON NY

Address: 460 W 34th St 10001

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: 4/21/15

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Dmitriy Perelshstein

Address: 704 Kings highway, Brooklyn 11223

I represent: Oceanside Health Clinic

Address: 704 Kings highway, Brooklyn NY 11223

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms