

Supplement to

Response to Consultation Document
“Better Regulating Pet Trading to Enhance Animal Health and Welfare”
(October 2012)

Animal Earth

In addition to the 10 comments raised in our recent response to the captioned consultation document, we would like to supplement with the following items.

- S1. We wish to emphasize that exploiting animals for the benefit of merchants and consumers in the pets trade is, **at its core, robbery**. We can, therefore, only accept the breeders licensing scheme in the present proposal as a **temporary measure to relieve** both the degree and the size of population of suffering animals in the breeding industry. The Government must **provide a time schedule to phase out the pet breeding industry** (including private and commercial breeders).

- S2. We are unable to know how stringent the proposed regulation is because **no detail** about the licensing conditions and code of practice is included in the consultation document. If the details are **too lenient**, it will mean not only **empty regulation** but also facilitate more people to legitimately pursue the pets breeding business. This will increase supply, lowering the price of pets, encourage more impulse buying, and ultimately aggravating abandonment and the problem of stray animals. This, in fact, contradicts AFCD’s direction of “Adoption instead of buying” being promoted recently. Therefore, we demand that **the consultation must include detail of licensing conditions and code of practice**, and provide ample opportunities for deliberation by the public.

- S3. Since the breeders licensing scheme is only a transitional alleviation measure, we propose that the **licences must be time-bound**. This is compatible with the Government's time schedule to phase out the pets breeding industry.
- S4. In North America alone, there are already over 28 cities that are phasing out the sale of pets, aiming to crack down on abuses and exploitation by puppy mills. The Appendix of this document lists some of these examples for reference.

Animal Earth

November 2012

2012年7月15日 星期日

密市寵物店禁售私人繁殖貓狗

【明報專訊】繼多倫多及卑詩省列治文市政府推出禁止寵物店出售私人繁殖貓、狗的附例後，密西沙加市議會本月初投票通過類似附例，令該市成為全國第3個推出該附例的城市。

安省防止虐畜會及人道協會曾指私人的貓、狗繁殖場，是製造數以千計被遺棄貓、狗，最後令到牠們被人道毀滅的罪魁禍首。

密市議會推出上述附例動議，是由於密市居民史登(Kate Steen)在寵物店購買了一隻鬥犬，她原本不知該犬隻原自私人的貓、狗繁殖場，其後其愛犬 Tikki 多病，她於近5年總共為牠花了5萬元獸醫診治費用。

她說，很多寵物主人由於付不起醫療費用，而讓其患病貓狗人道毀滅。她於上月與另外10多名市民，到密市議會發言，要求推出上述附例。

然而，一些到場的寵物店東主則說，該附例會令到他們結束營業。他們認為，3級政府應監管私人貓、狗繁殖場，不是寵物店。他們又指通常是從有信譽的繁殖者取貨。私人的貓、狗繁殖場的產品，主要是通過網站進行銷售。

密市政府職員指稱無法證實上述資料。

密市議員斯杜(Pat Saito)推出上述附例的動議，她認為私人貓、狗繁殖場是最殘忍的地方，推出該附例是為了盡一分力。

她說，很多時寵物店也不知道，從未受監管的私人貓、狗繁殖場購入貓、狗，賣家會提供偽造的健康證書，賣家也經常偽稱其貓、狗是純種。

本國最大型的加國犬隻會表示，他們不准其會員向寵物店出售貓、狗。

通過上述附例之後，寵物店以後要通過愛護動物協會或其他動物拯救組織的收養計劃，獲取寵物貨源，整個過程要有正當文件。

減少動物安樂死 洛市計劃禁售寵物

2012-10-29



本報訊：洛杉磯市的動物收容所經常被貓狗住滿，很多動物被逼接受安樂死。有鑑於此，洛杉磯市議會本月考慮在洛市實行禁止寵物店出售動物，希望可能緩解洛市收容所的擁擠，以減少動物被處安樂死的不幸。

根據聖蓋博谷論壇報（San Gabriel Valley Tribune）報道，洛市的收容所去年共有 5 萬 7000 隻寵物入住，其中有 3 萬 5405 隻狗和 2 萬 1883 隻貓。很多寵物被送進收容所，沒被領養的大部份會被處安樂死。去年有 25% 的狗被處安樂死，而被處安樂死的貓更高達 57%。



鼓勵領養 寵物店禁售貓狗兔

【洛杉磯訊】

October 10, 2012

洛杉磯市議會本月將商討一項三年的禁令，禁止洛市的寵物商店販賣小貓、小狗、兔子。這項禁令是為鼓勵人們去動物收容所領養被遺棄的寵物，以減少它們因「無人問津」而遭受人道毀滅的數量。

市議員 **Paul Koretz** 大力提倡這項禁令。他表示，終極目標是讓洛杉磯所有的動物收容所「零屠殺」。身為動物福利委員會（**Personnel and Animal Welfare Committee**）主席的 **Koretz** 預計，想要達到這項目標，還有很長的路要走，「對寵物販賣商說不，只是第一步」。

根據這項禁令的草案，寵物商店不得販賣小狗、小貓、兔子，除非它們來自洛杉磯市動物服務部門（**Department of Animal Services**）下面註冊的動物收容所或非盈利組織。

這項提議的支持者稱該禁令是舉手之勞（**no-brainer**），但反對者則稱其為政治迫害（**witch hunt**），經濟殺手（**economy killer**），並擔心滋生黑市。

寵物業的從業者表示，禁令之下，最大的受害者是遵守規則的寵物商店店主。寵物市場聯合顧問委員會（**Pet Industry Joint Advisory Council**）主席 **Michael Canning** 表示，這項禁令只會讓網路販賣、跳蚤市場販賣更為流行，他甚至預測還會有不擇手段的商販在卡車上、街上繼續販賣寵物。

洛杉磯市動物服務部門表示，每年接收上千個被遺棄的寵物，但大部分都無人認領。在 2011 至 2012 財政年，市動物收容所接收 5 萬 7000 個寵物，最終有 25% 的小狗和 57% 的小貓不得被人道毀滅。

在南加州，格蘭岱、赫爾摩沙灘（**Hermosa Beach**）、杭廷頓灘、爾灣、西好萊塢、拉古納灘等至少八城市已頒布類似禁令，布班克市也將於 16 日開始商討是否也對寵物販賣店下達禁令。

但洛杉磯市作為全美甚至全球的大城市，面臨的情況更為複雜。Canning 表示，一旦禁令正式生效，洛市將有 **11** 家商店被迫關門，**60** 人面臨失業。而且目前並沒有研究表明，如果民眾不能在店裡買到心儀的寵物，就一定會轉而投向動物收容所。

洛市一家名為奧林匹克寵物商店的亞裔店主 **Kandice Roe** 表示，已經經營這家寵物商店 **11** 年，如果要被迫關閉，「這真是一件極不公平的決定」。

URL: http://la.worldjournal.com/view/full_la/20420692/article-%E9%BC%93%E5%8B%B5%E9%A0%98%E9%A4%8A-%E5%AF%B5%E7%89%A9%E5%BA%97%E7%A6%81%E5%94%AE%E8%B2%93%E7%8B%97%E5%85%94



Toronto Council bans pet shop sale of dogs, cats, unless they're from shelters

CARYS MILLS, The Globe and Mail, Wednesday, Sep. 21 2011

Dogs and cats sold in Toronto pet shops must now come from animal shelters, rescue groups or people giving up animals for free.

Toronto city council voted unanimously on Wednesday to make the changes, which aim to put an end to puppy and kitty mills.

Councillor Glenn De Baeremaeker put forward the motion. He said puppy mills are bad for pets and consumers.

“They’re kept in small cages, they’re not socialized, they have immense health problems,” he said. “Consumers are getting ripped off.”

The issue originally went to council in June but was postponed.

The council item is referred to as “Banning the Sale of Cats and Dogs in Pet Shops,” but it actually sets out that shops cannot sell dogs or cats unless the animals come from a municipal shelter, a Humane Society or registered rescue group.

“It really slams the door closed on people who mass produce animals for profit,” said Mr. De Baeremaeker, adding it should help to stop sales of such animals at flea markets as well.

There is a movement across the country to try to restrict sales from puppy mills. Last October, for example, Richmond, B.C., became the first Canadian city to vote to ban all puppy sales at pet stores.

Toronto’s decision may further the movement to ban or restrict pets being sold in shops, according to Liz White, from the Animal Alliance of Canada.

“The animal protection community from around North America has been watching very closely at what was going on at Toronto city hall and how this issue was unfolding,” she said.

URL: <http://www.theglobeandmail.com/news/toronto/toronto-council-bans-pet-shop-sale-of-dogs-cats-unless-theyre-from-shelters/article595110/>



City council set to tighten rules on pet shop sales

06/01/2011 | Ashleigh Smollet, CityNews.ca

In an effort to curb puppy mills and animal cruelty, a **Toronto** city council committee has voted to restrict pet stores to selling dogs and cats that only come from shelters, humane societies and certified breeders.

Reputable breeders will include registered humane societies, registered shelters, municipal animal shelters and rescue groups.

The move is being seen as a compromise to many animal rights groups who were calling for an outright ban on selling dogs and cats in pet shops.

Toronto doesn't currently certify breeders, but advocates for the change argue the cost of certification would be minimal compared to the dangers of puppy and kitten mills, where animals are often mass produced and kept in squalid conditions.



Figure 1 Labrador puppies for sale in a pet shop. AP Photo/Damian Dovarganes

The full city council will vote on the measure on June 14.

If it passes, Toronto will become the second Canadian city to restrict the sale of animals in pet shops. Richmond, B.C. decided to ban the sale of dogs in pet stores in 2010.

URL: <http://www.citytv.com/toronto/citynews/news/local/article/134283--city-council-set-to-tighten-rules-on-pet-shop-sales>

Los Angeles Times

L.A. council votes to ban stores from selling non-rescue dogs, cats

October 24, 2012

Los Angeles lawmakers on Wednesday voted in favor of an ordinance that will make L.A. the largest city in America to ban pet stores from selling dogs, cats and rabbits obtained from commercial breeders.

The ordinance, which the City Council voted 12-2 to approve, targets puppy mills and is designed to cut down on the tens of thousands of animals euthanized each year in city shelters.

Under the law, individuals will still be allowed to buy directly from breeders, and pet stores will be allowed to sell animals that come from shelters, humane societies and registered rescue groups. Stores found to be selling animals from breeders may face misdemeanor charges and a first-time penalty of \$250.



Animal rights activists hailed L.A.'s approval of the ban as a signal to other large cities to follow suit. Irvine, Hermosa Beach and West Hollywood are among the more than 30 cities across the United States and Canada that have passed similar measures in recent years, according to Elizabeth Oreck, who has been leading the legislative effort on behalf of Best Friends Animal Society.

L.A.'s ban also sends a message, she said, to breeders who frequently cut corners to keep costs low at the expense of the animals.

“They’re inbred, they’re overbred, they’re irresponsibly bred,” Oreck said.

But pet shop owners complained the ordinance is misguided and unfair.

“It’s just making us suffer,” said Candice Ro, whose family has been selling small dogs, including Yorkshire Terriers and English Bulldogs, at its Koreatown pet shop for 11 years.

Ro said her store, Olympic Pet Shop, buys nearly all of its dogs from local breeders who take good care of their animals. “If we were getting puppy mill puppies that were sick we wouldn’t have stayed in business this long,” she said.

The ban was championed by Councilman Paul Koretz, a longtime supporter of animal rights who said lawmakers have a duty to stick up for animals who “cannot speak for themselves.”

The measure was opposed by Councilman Mitchell Englander, who voted against the ban along with Councilman Bill Rosendahl.

Englander said the city doesn’t have the resources to enforce the law, and said it will put L.A. pet stores at a disadvantage. During economically difficult times like these, he said, government should be focusing on other things.

“With the limited resources we have, we’ve got to focus on the core services,” Englander said.

Because Wednesday’s vote was not unanimous, it must come back for a second reading next week.

URL: <http://latimesblogs.latimes.com/lanow/2012/10/la-pet-store-sales-ban.html>



LA becomes largest city to ban sale of dogs, cats, rabbits

Los Angeles adopted an ordinance making the City of Angels largest city in the United States to enact legislation that puts an end to the flow of animals from puppy mills, the large commercial breeding farms that supply pet stores. In the future, dogs, cats and rabbits in Los Angeles pet stores will be from shelters or rescue groups.



Sinclair rescued from a puppy mill on Best Friends Animal Society "Pup My Ride" transport to new life.

“ To continue importing puppies and kittens from mills in other states while we are killing the surplus that are already filling our shelters simply doesn't make sense. ”

Los Angeles, Calif. (PRWEB) November 01, 2012

The Los Angeles City Council formalized its approval of an [ordinance](#) (by a 13-2 vote) that bans the retail sale of dogs, cats and rabbits--an important step on the path to becoming the largest no-kill community in the United States.

This action on Wednesday, Oct. 31 also makes the City of Angels the largest city in the United States to enact legislation that puts an end to the flow of animals from puppy mills, the large commercial breeding farms that supply pet stores. In the future, dogs, cats and rabbits in Los Angeles pet stores will be from shelters or rescue groups.

“It's a very good day for the people and animals of LA,” said Elizabeth Oreck, Best Friends' national manager of puppy mill initiatives. “Not only will this restrict the flow of animals coming into our city from pet mills and backyard breeders, it will

help alleviate the pet overpopulation problem in our shelters by providing more opportunities for rescued animals to find homes.

For the past two and a half years, Best Friends, under Oreck's leadership, has been working closely with the offices of the mayor and city attorney, as well as LA City Councilmember Paul Koretz, L.A. Animal Services General Manager Brenda Barnette and a few key stakeholders in the animal welfare community to craft an ordinance that effectively shuts down the city of Los Angeles for the sale of these animals.

Los Angeles joins 27 other cities in North America, including Toronto and 10 other California communities, in putting a major crimp in the pet store trade.

"More than 70,000 animals are euthanized in Los Angeles city and county shelters every year -- at taxpayer expense," said Oreck. "To continue importing puppies and kittens from mills in other states while we are killing the surplus that are already filling our shelters simply doesn't make sense. Today, Los Angeles took a reasonable and progressive step to addressing these issues in our city."

Oreck said the ordinance will not affect responsible, hobby breeders, who will remain a source of purebred animals for those who are not able to find the purebred of their choice through shelters, purebred rescue groups or online databases such as Petfinder.com. In fact, the ordinance should actually help increase business for the breeders in local communities, which is preferable to importing business from outside of Los Angeles, she added.

Oreck said that she received calls and e-mails from people all over the country, asking how they can enact an ordinance to ban retail sales of pets in their own communities.

"We are witnessing a cultural shift that comes from true grassroots advocacy in action. It is only a matter of time before there will be very few places where one will be able to walk into a pet store and purchase an animal from a puppy or kitten mill.

URL: <http://www.prweb.com/releases/2012/11/prweb10082022.htm>



Breaking News: 70 Malls Across US To Ban Pet Sales

October 11, 2011

GLOBAL ANIMAL EXCLUSIVE, by Madison Rootenberg

Global Animal just received news that shopping center developer Macerich is banning sales of live animals in more than 70 malls across the US. This new humane policy designed to break the puppy mill business chain is taking effect nationwide within 30 days. Macerich confirmed that they will not renew the leases of existing pet stores that sell animals and in their place, are opening humane stores offering adoptions of rescued pets.

Some of the high profile shopping malls include Los Angeles' Westside Pavilion, which is opening a rescue store this month in association with the nonprofit Friends of LA Shelters, Scottsdale's Fashion Square, Chesterfield Towne Center in Richmond, Virginia, and Santa Monica Place.

The mall developer's pet sale ban was a year in the making and in large part, is the result of the efforts of film producer and animal activist, Jennifer Peterson. Hers is a story of how a personal experience can illuminate one's calling and be a beacon for larger change.

Ms. Peterson grew up in Los Angeles adopting animals and surrounded herself with likeminded rescuers. When a close friend purchased a "designer" dog from BarkWorks pet store in Westside Pavilion, the animal lover became an animal activist.



"I had a gut feeling it was bad," Peterson explains. The pet store dog became sick within a week of purchase, and Jennifer began to suspect a puppy mill connection. Jennifer Peterson contacted BarkWorks and according to Peterson, the pet store refused to take any responsibility for the sick pup.

Appendix

Peterson began researching puppy mills and how the industry supplies pet stores with dogs who endure horrific conditions. She started a Facebook page called “Boycott BarkWorks,” where people could post their experiences and reactions. The page developed into a place to protest puppy mills and stores like BarkWorks that sell bred animals.

Jennifer reached out to her friend Randy Brant, who is Macerich’s VP of Leasing. Brant and others at Macerich knew little about puppy mills and were appalled by what Jennifer Peterson had shared.

“I thought if I talked to him about how terrible it is, maybe there was a chance they might go humane,” Peterson said. She contacted all 74 Macerich shopping centers to find out how many pet stores offered rescued animals for adoption versus those with dogs bred for sale. The numbers were disheartening for any animal lover.

Jennifer Peterson, Randy Brant and his wife, Dahli, worked for a year to help Macerich develop the companywide pet sale ban in their malls.

“Communities love and support adoption. We are hoping this starts a domino effect with other mall leasing companies across the country. Let’s get these shops out of business,” said Peterson.

Macerich is proud of their trailblazing pet sale ban and hope to demonstrate that animal welfare is good business. Encouraged by this landmark policy change, Peterson is redoubling her efforts to shut down the entire puppy mill industry. She’s certain it can happen by “ordinary” people getting involved.

“If you see a pet store, write a letter. Complain. Find out who the leasing company is and let them know about puppy mills. Get involved and reach out to who you know. I did something about it and I’m not special. Two years ago I had never even been to a protest. People can do it.”

URL: <http://www.globalanimal.org/2011/10/11/breaking-news-70-malls-across-us-to-ban-pet-sales/54618/>