

PERSONNEL AND ANIMAL WELFARE COMMITTEE REPORT relative to amending Los Angeles Municipal Code (LAMC) Section 53.15.2 to require domesticated rabbits be spayed or neutered.

Recommendation for Council action, pursuant to Motion (Koretz - O'Farrell):

REQUEST the City Attorney to prepare and present an Ordinance amending LAMC Section 53.15.2 to require domesticated rabbits to be spayed or neutered on the same basis as dogs and/or cats.

Fiscal Impact Statement: Neither the CAO nor the Chief Legislative Analyst has completed a financial analysis of this report.

Community Impact Statement: None submitted.

Summary:

On January 16, 2019, your Committee considered a Motion (Koretz - O'Farrell) relative to amending LAMC Section 53.15.2 to require domesticated rabbits be spayed or neutered. According to the Motion, in 2008 Council approved an Ordinance mandating that all owned dogs and cats in Los Angeles be spayed or neutered, with certain specified exceptions. This ordinance, which now is featured in LAMC Section 53.15.2, has contributed to the reduction in euthanasia in the City's animal shelters. In the years since adoption of the Spay/Neuter ordinance, the population of rabbits entering the shelters has grown to the point where the system's capacity to house rabbits pending adoption is stretched thin. The Department of Animal Services, along with rabbit activists and advocates, now believe that expanding the spay/neuter requirements imposed on dogs and cats in 2008 to include rabbits would be a useful aid in combating rabbit over-population. After consideration, the Committee moved to recommend approval of the Motion as detailed in the above recommendation. This matter is now submitted to Council for its consideration.

Respectfully Submitted,

PERSONNEL AND ANIMAL WELFARE COMMITTEE



**MEMBER VOTE**

KORETZ: YES

SMITH: YES

PRICE: ABSENT

ARL

1/16/19

-NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL COUNCIL ACTS-