

MOTION

On October 31, 2012, the City Council adopted ordinance number 182309 (CF 11-0754), which established section 53.73 of the Los Angeles Municipal Code banning the sale of commercially bred dogs, cats and rabbits in pet stores.

This action included a "sunset clause," specifying that the LAMC section would expire on June 30, 2016, unless an ordinance is approved to extend it. The sunset clause was thought to be necessary in case the ordinance should prove to be unduly disruptive to the successful operation of pet stores in Los Angeles.

Since 2012 the ordinance has become a national model for jurisdictions seeking to play a role in combating the often inhumane puppy mill industry by preventing the sale of animals from such mass breeding operations located across the country. In Los Angeles it has provided the Department of Animal Services with the statutory leverage needed to do so. It has also encouraged pet shops to work with the City and rescue groups to stage adoption events that provide deserving animals with enhanced opportunities to find forever homes. And for those pet shops that have complied with the regulation in their adoption and pet sales activities, it has provided a useful new outlet for shelter and rescue animals.

One such shop, the NKLA store in West Los Angeles, has moved more than 4,000 animals from shelters and rescue groups to new homes following the model prescribed in the ordinance. Zoning issues have made it difficult for other such shops to get established in desirable commercial locations, but that issue could be separately addressed in the future. In the meantime, the Department of Animal Services reports substantial compliance among established shops and no complaints regarding any approved shops employing the model.

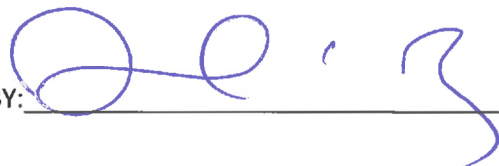
I THEREFORE MOVE that the City Council instruct the City Attorney to prepare an ordinance to amend Section 53.73 of the Los Angeles Municipal Code to delete the words, "The ordinance will become operative six months after its effective date, and expire on June 30, 2016, unless extended by ordinance" from the Code and transmit it to the Council for approval at the earliest opportunity.

PRESENTED BY:



PAUL KORETZ
Councilmember, 5th District

SECONDED BY:



JAN 13 2016

ORIGINAL