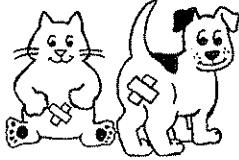


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October 11, 2010

Councilmember Janice Hahn
Fifteenth District
Los Angeles City Council
200 North Spring Street
Los Angeles CA 90012

Honorable Councilmember Hahn:

RE: CF NO. 10-0982 – (PROTEST) OPPOSITION TO INCREASING DOG/CAT LIMITS IN LOS ANGELES

As a veterinarian who owned two spay/neuter clinics serving the West Los Angeles and Harbor areas of Los Angeles and the animals of all City shelters, I must express my concern and sincere opposition to the effort to allow every resident/household in Los Angeles to own ten (10) animals—five dogs and/or five cats.

After more than 40 years in veterinary practice in this area, I am familiar with the many issues that arise for owners who attempt to maintain large numbers of animals in the average household—especially mixing canines and felines. Properly caring for pets is a major responsibility and expense which can easily become overwhelming, especially in our current economic milieu. Maintaining a large number of animals requires precautions and experience. The City's sanction of ten animals may cause less-experienced owners to believe this official permission automatically indicates this is a safe practice and would result in tragedies to both the animals and humans, especially children.

Because of my expertise and long experience in efforts to reduce pet overpopulation, I can assure the City Council that many pet owners are still not aware of the age at which spay/neuter should be performed in order to avoid unwanted litters and more homeless animals ending up in our overburdened shelters. The "oops" factor would be prevalent. Sterilization is often delayed because it is considered an "elective," especially when the cost is multiplied over such a large number of pets. Eighty-five percent of pet ownership comes from sources other than animal shelters or humane groups that, by law, must provide only sterilized pets.

I believe any increased animal limits should not be approved at this time. We have not yet had enough opportunity to evaluate the effects of the 2008 spay/neuter ordinance on owned animals. I urge you not to approve the risk of adding to our animal control problem at this time. The unintended negative consequences of increasing dog & cat limits are too numerous to list in this short plea.

Sincerely,

W. Marvin Mackie, DVM

cc: Eric Garcetti, Council President and all Council members
John White, Deputy City Clerk (Office of the City Clerk)



Mr. & Mrs. Sam Praw
1533 S. Beverly Dr.
Los Angeles, CA 90035-3003

10/11/60

L.A. City Clerk
John White
200 No Spring St
Los Angeles, Ca 90012

re: ^{Motion} CF 10-0982

Dear Sir,

To increase the allowable limit on pets is a very wrong thing to propose.

As a resident I can't but be annoyed by the dog & cat feces on our lawn and parkingway.

Most ^{pet} owners don't follow the leash law, or don't care to clean up their dog, and so many dogs, they "walk".

Ask someone to "clean up" and you'll not believe the answer you get!

Furthermore, as a condo resident, so many people leave their pets unattended all day - so they whine and bark!

Is this fair! (to the pets and to the neighbors)

"No" "No" "No"

Respectfully Sam Praw