

PERSONNEL AND ANIMAL WELFARE COMMITTEE REPORT relative to amending Los Angeles Municipal Code (LAMC) Section 53.63 in regard to barking dog noise requirements.

Recommendation for Council action:

REQUEST the City Attorney to prepare and present an Ordinance to:

- a. Delete the language in LAMC Section 53.63 requiring dog noise to be continuously audible for ten minutes or intermittently audible for 30 minutes within a three-hour period.
- b. Amend the language in LAMC Section 53.63 (b)1. to reflect that the second complaint should be received after, rather than within, 15 days from the issuance of the written notice from the Department of Animal Services (DAS) to the dog owner.

Fiscal Impact Statement: None submitted by the DAS. Neither the City Administrative Officer nor the Chief Legislative Analyst has completed a financial analysis of this report.

Community Impact Statement: None submitted.

Summary:

On June 3, 2014, your Committee considered an April 22, 2014 DAS report relative to amending LAMC 53.63 in regard to barking dog noise requirements. According to the DAS, LAMC Section 53.63 was amended in December 2011, defining excessive dog noise as barking that was continuously audible for ten minutes or intermittently audible for 30 minutes within a three-hour period (Council File No. 11-0922; Ordinance No. 181930). Over the past two years, this definition has proven to be a problem, unduly limiting the ability of the DAS to effectively address concerns and complaints from the public regarding excessive dog barking.

The DAS proposes changes to the LAMC that will make adjudicating dog barking hearings more effective. In addition, LAMC Section 53.63 (b)1 requires a correction to the language of the Code with respect to when a second complaint can be filed with the DAS. The December 2011 amendment erroneously added language that requires the second complaint to be received from the complainant within 15 days from the issuance of the written notice from the Department to the dog owner. The correct time requirement is that the second complaint may be filed after 15 days. This will also make the time period consistent with the long-standing practice of the DAS.

After consideration and having provided an opportunity for public comment, the Committee moved to recommend approval of the DAS's recommendations as contained in its April 22, 2014 report. This matter is now submitted to Council for its consideration.

Respectfully Submitted,

PERSONNEL AND ANIMAL WELFARE COMMITTEE

<u>MEMBER</u>	<u>VOTE</u>
KORETZ:	YES
O'FARRELL:	YES
FUENTES:	ABSENT

ARL

6/3/14

-NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL COUNCIL ACTS-