

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, any official position of the City of Los Angeles with respect to legislation, rules, regulations or policies proposed or pending before a local, state or federal governmental body or agency must first have been adopted in the form of a Resolution by the City Council with the concurrence of the Mayor; and

WHEREAS, in recent years, Los Angeles and many other communities with responsibilities for animal welfare and law enforcement relative to animals have encountered a vacuum of data regarding the numbers of those animals living within their jurisdictions; and

WHEREAS, when the City of Los Angeles undertook major amendments to Municipal Code sections on licensing of dogs in 2010-2011, for example, the Department of Animal Services (LAAS) used an extrapolatory formula derived in another jurisdiction to estimate the number of dogs living in the city; and

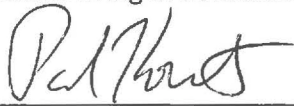
WHEREAS, there was no way to determine how accurate the estimate was, thus making it more difficult to project possible increases in revenue associated with increased license sales the City was hoping to generate, which in turn hampered the Council's ability to more precisely analyze the potential impact of the actions it was taking and their potential impact on staffing and budgets; and

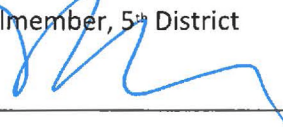
WHEREAS, the United States Census Bureau conducts the decennial U.S. Census every ten years to take an accounting of the population of the country and to delineate various useful categories of statistics about people and communities; and

WHEREAS, the Census arguably is the single most extensive effort to contact households and ascertain data about the nature of those households conducted in the United States and is mandated by law, fully budgeted and professionally administered; and

WHEREAS, the decennial Census is a data-gathering vehicle that could be used to obtain a census of animals in the United States that could serve a variety of purposes, not the least of which would be improved budgeting and policymaking on the part of government at all levels with regard to animal welfare and animal-related law enforcement.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, with the concurrence of the Mayor, that by the adoption of this Resolution, the City of Los Angeles hereby includes in its 2015-2016 Federal Legislative Program the pursuit of a legislative amendment to Title 13 of the United States Code, or an administrative action accomplishing the same goal, to include a question in the 2020 and subsequent U.S. Censuses to enumerate the number of dogs, cats, rabbits and any other animals living in domestic circumstances in the United States.

PRESENTED BY:   
PAUL KORETZ  
Councilmember, 5<sup>th</sup> District

SECONDED BY: 

  
JAN 26 2016

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