

RESOLUTION

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

WHEREAS, the declawing of a cat is an invasive procedure that requires the amputation of the last bone, surrounding nerves, collateral ligaments, and extensor and flexor tendons of the animal; and

WHEREAS, the PAW Project advises that this operation is damaging to the animal and has inherent risks such as anesthetic complications, lameness, infection, pain and death; and

WHEREAS, this procedure is usually done for the convenience of the owner with limited circumstances where the procedure is done for the animal's health; and

WHEREAS, in 2009, the City of Los Angeles enacted an ordinance banning the declawing of cats because the practice is inhumane and unnecessary; and

WHEREAS, nine local governments in California have banned declawing, and it is illegal or allowed only under extreme circumstances in Israel, France, and Germany, among many other nations; and

WHEREAS, Assemblyman Rosenthal has introduced AB1297 in New York, which would prohibit the declawing or flexor tendonectomy of any animal within the State of New York, except when necessary for a therapeutic purpose defined as infection, disease, existing or recurring illness, or an abnormal condition that compromises the animal's health; and

WHEREAS, the City of Los Angeles should support similar legislation in California because it would help limit the suffering of animals, prevent potential life-long side effects, and promote public health and safety concerns; and

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 State Legislative Program SPONSORSHIP or SUPPORT for legislation or administrative action that would ban the declawing of animals except when necessary for a therapeutic purpose.

MAY 17 2016



PRESENTED BY 
 PAUL KORETZ
 Councilmember, 5th District

SECONDED BY 

ORIGINAL