

ORDINANCE NO. _____

An ordinance adding Section 53.75 to the Los Angeles Municipal Code to prohibit the sale or manufacture of fur products.

WHEREAS, the Federal Dog and Cat Protection Act of 2000 (19 U.S.C. Section 1308) makes it unlawful to import into, or export from, the United States any dog or cat fur product;

WHEREAS, California Penal Code Section 598a makes it unlawful to possess, import into the State of California, sell, buy, give away, or accept any pelt of a dog or cat with the sole intent of selling or giving away the pelt of a dog or cat;

WHEREAS, other than banning the sale, import or export of dog and cat products, neither the federal government nor the California state legislature prohibits the manufacture or sale of fur;

WHEREAS, the Humane Society of the United States stated that the fur apparel industry kills more than 50 million animals a year in factory farms around the world. These factory farm animals are often forced to live in very crowded, miserable, and unsanitary conditions and are killed by violent, painful and inhumane methods;

WHEREAS, trapping animals for their fur not only causes suffering by the animals sought to be trapped, but traps in the wild also catch and cause pain and death to wild animals, including those protected by the Endangered Species Acts of the United States and the State of California;

WHEREAS, fur farming can be damaging to the environment by consuming significant quantities of energy and contributing to water and air pollution. Fur processing often involves the use of harmful chemicals including chromium and formaldehyde;

WHEREAS, through technology, new methods for manufacturing warm clothing and faux fur have advanced, making the use of animal fur for warm clothing unnecessary, especially in warm climates like Los Angeles. Consequently, most animal furs are now used solely for fashion;

WHEREAS, considering the wide array of alternatives for fashion and apparel, the demand for fur does not justify the torture, confinement, and inhumane treatment of animals;

WHEREAS, eliminating the sale and manufacture of fur in the City of Los Angeles will promote community awareness of animal welfare and, in turn, will foster a more kind and humane environment within the City; and

WHEREAS, the sale and manufacture of fur is inconsistent with the City's goal of being a community who cares about and promotes animal welfare.

NOW, THEREFORE,

**THE PEOPLE OF THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES
DO ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:**

Section 1. Section 53.75 is added to Article 3, Chapter V of the Los Angeles Municipal Code to read as follows:

SEC. 53.75. PROHIBITION TO MANUFACTURE, SELL, DISTRIBUTE, TRADE, IMPORT, OR EXPORT FUR.

A. Definitions. For the purposes of this section, the following words shall have the following meanings:

1. **Fur.** Any animal skin or part thereof with Fur, fleece or Fur fibers attached thereto, either in its raw or processed state, not including skins that are intended for conversion and are later converted into leather. Fur does not include cowhide with hair attached thereto or lambskin or sheepskin with fleece attached thereto.
2. **Fur Product.** Any article of clothing or fashion accessory made in whole or in part of Fur, including, but not limited to, a coat, jacket, handbag, purse, wallet, shoe, slipper, hat, earmuff, scarf, shawl, glove, jewelry or keychain. Fur Product does not include dog or cat fur products.
3. **Non-Profit Organization.** Any charity or corporation that is authorized under United States Code 26 Section 501(c)(3) for charitable, religious, philanthropic, educational or other similar purposes
4. **Taxidermy.** The practice of preparing and preserving the skin and Fur of a deceased animal or part of a deceased animal that is stuffed and mounted in a lifelike form.
5. **Used Fur Product.** Fur or Fur Product in any form which has been worn or used by an ultimate consumer.

B. Prohibitions. It shall be unlawful anywhere in the City to manufacture, sell, display for sale, distribute, trade, import, or export any Fur or Fur Product, with the following exceptions:

1. Under the authority of California Fish and Game Code Section 3039(b), a Fur Product made from a furbearing animal or non-game animal lawfully taken under the authority of a trapping license;

2. The pelt of a deceased animal that is preserved through Taxidermy or for the purpose of Taxidermy;

3. The gift or transfer of a Used Fur Product between private parties;

4. A Used Fur Product bought, sold, donated or owned by a person not in the primary business of selling Fur or a Fur Product, including a Non-Profit Organization, second hand store, or pawn shop;

5. The manufacture of a Fur Product using Fur sourced exclusively from a Used Fur Product; and

6. A Fur or Fur Product that is only being transported through the City.

D. Effective Date. This section shall be effective on January 1, 2021.

E. Severability. If any provision of this section is found to be unconstitutional or otherwise invalid by any court of competent jurisdiction, that invalidity shall not affect the remaining provisions of this ordinance which can be implemented without the invalid provisions, and to this end, the provisions of this section are declared to be severable. The City Council hereby declares that it would have adopted this ordinance and each provision thereof irrespective of whether any one or more provisions are found invalid, unconstitutional or otherwise unenforceable.

Sec. 2. The City Clerk shall certify to the passage of this ordinance and have it published in accordance with Council policy, either in a daily newspaper circulated in the City of Los Angeles or by posting for ten days in three public places in the City of Los Angeles: one copy on the bulletin board located at the Main Street entrance to the Los Angeles City Hall; one copy on the bulletin board located at the Main Street entrance to the Los Angeles City Hall East; and one copy on the bulletin board located at the Temple Street entrance to the Los Angeles County Hall of Records.

Approved as to Form and Legality

MICHAEL N. FEUER, City Attorney

By 
LAURIE RITTENBERG
Assistant City Attorney

Date 12/19/18

File No. _____

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I hereby certify that the foregoing ordinance was passed by the Council of the City of Los Angeles.

CITY CLERK

MAYOR

Ordinance Passed _____

Approved _____