

PERSONNEL AND ANIMAL WELFARE COMMITTEE REPORT relative to proposed requirement for veterinarians to notify the Department of Animal Services (DAS) whenever a veterinarian has treated an unlicensed dog.

Recommendation for Council action:

NOTE and FILE the August 13, 2014 DAS report relative to proposed requirement for veterinarians to notify the DAS whenever a veterinarian has treated an unlicensed dog.

Fiscal Impact Statement: Not applicable.

Community Impact Statement: None submitted.

Summary:

On August 19, 2014, your Committee considered an August 13, 2014 DAS report in response to Adopted Budget Recommendation relative to proposed requirement for veterinarians to notify the DAS whenever a veterinarian has treated an unlicensed dog. According to the DAS, Los Angeles Municipal Code (LAMC) Section 53.53 requires a veterinarian, after vaccinating a dog for rabies, to sign a certificate containing the owner's and dog's information to the DAS within five calendar days after the end of the month. This existing ordinance addresses the issue of veterinarians notifying the Department of unlicensed dogs. The DAS checks the owner/dog information contained in the certificate against the information contained in its animal management database, "Chameleon." If there is no record of the owner/dog, the DAS will send the owner a "Notice to Secure Dog License" letter. The owner is now required to license the dog(s).

The DAS will be sending a letter to all veterinarians in the City with the following information:

- a. Encouraging them to participate in the Department's spay/neuter program by entering into Letters of Agreements (LOAs) with Animal Services. Veterinarians with LOAs will be paid using the \$70 free certificate/\$30 coupon to eliminate or reduce the cost of sterilization surgeries for low-income residents and the general public. These veterinarians will also assist in the spay/neuter of animals adopted at the shelters. Increasing the number of veterinarians using our Animal Sterilization Fund will assist in reducing impounds and helping the DAS get to "no kill."
- b. Encouraging veterinarians to sell dog licenses. The LAMC allows this and the process is simple: Veterinarians buy \$20 1 dog licenses for \$18, and then sell these to the public for \$20, allowing them to keep \$2 per license.

After consideration and having provided an opportunity for public comment, the Committee moved to note and file the August 13, 2014 DAS report. This matter is now submitted to Council for its consideration.

Respectfully Submitted,

PERSONNEL AND ANIMAL WELFARE COMMITTEE

MEMBER VOTE

KORETZ: YES

O'FARRELL: YES

FUENTES: YES

ARL

8/19/14

-NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL COUNCIL ACTS-