

**REPORT/RECOMMENDATION TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
OF SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY, CALIFORNIA  
AND RECORD OF ACTION**

**149**

June 22, 2010

**FROM: BRAD MITZELFELT, First District Supervisor  
Board of Supervisors**

**NEIL DERRY, Third District Supervisor  
Board of Supervisors**

**SUBJECT: ADOPT ORDINANCE AMENDING THE COUNTY CODE RELATING TO  
ANIMAL CONTROL**

**RECOMMENDATION(S)**

Read title only of proposed ordinance relating to Animal Control; waive reading of the entire text and **CONTINUE TO TUESDAY, JULY 13, 2010 AT 10:00 a.m.** for adoption.

(Affected Districts: All)

(Presenter: Brian Cronin, Chief of Animal Care and Control, 387-9152)

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

California Health and Safety Code Section 122330-122331 allows local agencies to enact breed-specific programs for spaying/neutering to control over-population of animals. Pit Bull-type dogs represent twenty percent of all dogs in the County's animal shelter system. They are one of the top three breeds to be impounded at the County shelters and are the number one breed to be euthanized.

Under the proposed ordinance, pet owners will be required to spay/neuter their Pit Bulls and Pit Bull-type dogs within 30 days of implementation of the ordinance. The Department of Public Health's Animal Care and Control Division (ACC) will educate pet owners regarding the new requirements and may assist pet owners by providing spay/neuter vouchers to those unable to comply due to financial hardships. ACC has included \$180,000 in its recommended Fiscal Year 2010-11 budget for the voucher program.

The objectives of the ordinance are to reduce the number of Pit Bull and Pit Bull-type dogs euthanized, impounded, or running at large in the community, amend the criminal penalty for a first time violation of an Animal Control provision to be consistent with the administrative citation penalty in Section 11.0208(e) of the County Code, and require that Pit Bulls and Pit Bull-type dogs kept in a pet shop or kennel be licensed.

ACC will keep statistical information and measure the effectiveness of this spay/neuter program in accordance with the requirements of Health and Safety Code Section 122331(b).

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**FINANCIAL IMPACT**

No additional local County cost is anticipated at this time. The Department of Public Health will monitor revenue impacts after implementation.

**REVIEW BY OTHERS**

This item has been reviewed by County Counsel (Steven Singley, Deputy County Counsel, 387-4271) on June 7, 2010, and the County Administrative Office [Trudy Raymundo (387-3986), Matthew Erickson (387-3937), and Lori Ciabattini (388-0253), Administrative Analysts] on June 11, 2010.