

# THE ANIMAL COUNCIL

P.O. Box 168, Millbrae CA 94030

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September 8, 2008

Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger

State Capitol Building

Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: A.B. 2743, amended August 24, 2010, Real Property Rentals, dogs, cats  
VETO REQUEST

Dear Governor Schwarzenegger:

We urge you to veto AB 2743, because it posed non-existent issues to surreptitiously de-legitimize elective veterinary procedures, it. In plain English – “declawing” cats and “debarking” dogs, that are otherwise lawful veterinary practice in California as determined through the veterinarian-client relationship in regard to an individual animal patient of the owner-client. The author widely expanded these procedures beyond the usual species by using non-specific “animal” with results that would be comical if not signaling future intent of others to seek outright prohibition. Otherwise, there is no reason to codify unrealistic terminology.

As typically and selectively performed only selectively with small numbers of patients in limited circumstances, only de-barking of dogs would be a realistic occurrence in rental occupancies. Unlike cats that would only damage the premises for which the tenant would be liable for repairs, other tenants and outside neighbors hear dogs’ noise and may be greatly disturbed. Such barking may or may not reach the threshold for legal action under local animal, noise or nuisance ordinance. Landlords have some legal liabilities in nuisances on their owned premises, so the prospect of legal enforcement arising from mention of de-barking creates a disincentive to offer or negotiate pet tenancies, particularly if tenants will not mitigate barking or dispose of the animal. We respectfully ask that you veto this disingenuous bill as harmful to both pets, and tenants and potentially may eliminate these options all pet owners to keep their pets as the need arises

THE ANIMAL COUNCIL (TAC) is a California nonprofit, public benefit corporation founded in 1991 to seek positive, humane solutions to the challenges of detrimental animal public policies, legislation and regulation through study, analysis and application of animal husbandry, statistics and law, and at the same time preserve human benefit from all species, breeds and registries.

Please veto SB 1527.

Very truly yours,

SHARON A. COLEMAN

President, The Animal Council

**A California Non-Profit Public Benefit Corporation**

**Telephone (650) 692-0126**

**TheAnimalCouncil@aol.com    <http://www.theanimalcouncil.com>**