

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

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August 23, 2011

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

**SUBJECT: ORDINANCE AMENDING THE COUNTY CODE RELATED 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, SEPTEMBER 13, 2011 AT 10:00 A.M.** for adoption.

(Affected Districts: All)

(Presenter: Neil Derry, Third District Supervisor, 387-4855)

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS COUNTY GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Maintain Public Safety.

Provide for the Health and Social Services Needs of County Residents.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

This item does not impact discretionary general funding (net county cost). This action does not involve a federal program or the use of any federal funds. The Department of Public Health will monitor revenue after implementation.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

California Health and Safety Code 122330 et seq. permits cities and counties to take appropriate action aimed at eliminating uncontrolled and irresponsible breeding of animals. Uncontrolled and irresponsible breeding leads to overpopulation.

On July 13, 2010 (Item No. 85), the Board of Supervisors (Board) approved an ordinance requiring the mandatory sterilization of Pit Bull and Pit Bull type dogs within San Bernardino County, with limited exceptions. In addition to this mandatory sterilization, the Department of Public Health, Animal Care and Control Division (ACC) currently employs public awareness campaigns and spay/neuter vouchers to assist in further managing pet overpopulation. Given the continued uncontrolled breeding of dogs, it is clear that additional management of the dog population is needed.

Under the proposed ordinance, pet owners would be required to spay/neuter their dog if the owner violated another animal licensing law, leash law, nuisance animal notice ordinance, or

other animal law. The ordinance will not affect responsible pet owners who have licensed their dogs, obey leash laws, and are in full compliance with existing regulations.

The objectives of the ordinance are to curtail irresponsible dog breeding and overcrowding in the County's shelters and reduce the number of dogs euthanized, impounded, or running at large in the community.

REVIEW BY OTHERS

This item has been reviewed by County Counsel (Steven Singley, Deputy County Counsel, 387-4271) on August 4, 2011; and the County Administrative Office [Monique Allen (386-8393), Lori Ciabattini (388-0253), and Matthew Erickson (387-3937), Administrative Analysts] on August 15, 2011. This item has also been reviewed by the Department of Public Health, Animal Care and Control Division (Brian Cronin, Division Chief, 387-9152) on August 10, 2011.