

Susan Taylor



March 9, 2015

HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
City of Long Beach, California

Re: Item 15-0115 Changes to Title 6

Dear Mayor and City Council Members:

Actors and Others for Animals would like to add our support to the proposed changes to Title 6 of the Long Beach Municipal Code.

We strongly believe that all of us have a responsibility to protect and care for the pets we take into our homes and hearts and to the discarded and unwanted animals who end up in shelters. Through the money we raise, our core work is to ensure that low and/or fixed income individuals are able to have their pets spayed and neutered to reduce birth rates and to enrich their quality of life. Over our 44 year history we have facilitated the sterilization of over 400,000 animals in the Southern California area, including Long Beach.

It is a crime, I am sure you will agree, that we have to kill so many innocent animals a year. To limit breeding of all dogs and require sterilization is the only answer to reducing and ultimately eliminating the need to kill animals for lack of homes.

It is simply wrong to continue to allow anyone to indiscriminately and unconsciously add to the population of dogs without supervision. This ordinance change will provide the needed checks and balances. There will be those who tell you that if you stop breeding animals, one day there will be no dogs. This of course is the most specious of arguments. This ordinance change does not stop breeding; it only sets regulations to ensure personal responsibility.

Finally, we urge you to support your Department of Animal Control with the needed funds to properly enforce this ordinance change and with financial assistance for your constituents who will need help in having their pets sterilized. Enforcement is a key element for the success of any ordinance, and we encourage you to give this your utmost attention.

On behalf of all of us at Actors and Others for Animals and all of our supporters and friends, I thank you for your support of this timely ordinance change.

On behalf of the animals,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Susan Taylor".

Susan Taylor
Executive Director