

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MARCH 2, 2009

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2009—10 REGULAR SESSION

Assembly Concurrent Resolution

No. 19

Introduced by Assembly Member Smyth

(Principal coauthor: Assembly Member Lieu)

(Coauthors: Assembly Members Adams, Ammiano, Anderson, Bass, Beall, Bill Berryhill, Tom Berryhill, Blakeslee, Block, Blumenfield, Brownley, Buchanan, Caballero, Charles Calderon, Carter, Conway, Cook, Coto, De La Torre, De Leon, DeVore, Duvall, Emmerson, Eng, Evans, Feuer, Fong, Fuentes, Fuller, Gaines, Galgiani, Hagman, Hall, Hayashi, Hernandez, Hill, Huber, Huffman, Jeffries, Jones, Knight, Krekorian, Logue, Bonnie Lowenthal, Ma, Mendoza, Miller, Monning, Nava, Niello, Nielsen, John A. Perez, V. Manuel Perez, Portantino, Price, Ruskin, Salas, Saldana, Silva, Skinner, Solorio, Audra Strickland, Torlakson, Torrico, Tran, Villines, and Yamada)

February 4, 2009

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 19—Relative to Spay Day USA 2009.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 19, as amended, Smyth. Spaying and neutering.

This measure would declare February 24, 2009, to be Spay Day USA 2009, and would request that Californians observe that day by having their dogs or cats spayed or neutered and by contributing to organizations that provide spay and neuter services.

Fiscal committee: no.

1 WHEREAS, More than one-half of one million dogs and cats
2 ~~were euthanized by~~ *entered* animal shelters in California during
3 2007, the most recent year for which statewide data is available;
4 and

5 *WHEREAS, Nearly half of these animals were not reclaimed by*
6 *their owners or were not adopted by new owners, and thus were*
7 *euthanized; and*

8 WHEREAS, In most instances these dogs and cats are young,
9 healthy, and friendly animals that are euthanized simply because
10 there are not enough good homes for them; and

11 WHEREAS, An additional unknown number of animals die
12 each year due to abandonment, neglect, abuse, starvation, or
13 cruelty; and

14 WHEREAS, The cost to government and nonprofit agencies of
15 handling and euthanizing discarded animals ~~exceeds~~ *approaches*
16 one-quarter of one billion dollars per year; and

17 WHEREAS, The spaying or neutering of dogs and cats helps
18 solve this tragic and costly problem by reducing the number of
19 dogs and cats that end up in shelters; and

20 WHEREAS, It is the policy of the State of California that animal
21 shelters should aggressively promote spay and neuter programs to
22 reduce pet overpopulation; and

23 WHEREAS, Californians can contribute to this effort by spaying
24 or neutering their own companion animals and by supporting
25 programs in their communities that offer accessible spay and neuter
26 services; and

27 WHEREAS, Veterinarians, humane societies, animal control
28 agencies, and national and local animal welfare organizations will
29 join together to advocate the spaying or neutering of dogs and cats
30 on “Spay Day USA 2009,” an annual campaign of the Humane
31 Society of the United States; and

32 WHEREAS, In particular, the Sacramento area is celebrating
33 its 10th anniversary as a national leader in the coordination of Spay
34 Day USA events designed to meet the needs of low-income
35 families, and this year will ~~reach~~ *exceed* a total of 5,000 dogs and
36 cats spayed or neutered as part of Spay Day USA events; now,
37 therefore, be it

38 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate*
39 *thereof concurring,* That the Legislature of the State of California
40 declares February 24, 2009, to be Spay Day USA 2009 and requests

1 Californians to observe the day by having their dogs or cats spayed
2 or neutered and by contributing to charitable organizations that
3 provide spay and neuter services; and the legislature further
4 requests that California veterinarians work with animal shelters
5 and rescue groups to provide accessible spay and neuter services;
6 and be it further
7 *Resolved*, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies
8 of this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.

O