

Assembly Concurrent Resolution

No. 2

Introduced by Assembly Member Smyth

January 4, 2011

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 2—Relative to Spay Day USA 2011.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 2, as introduced, Smyth. Spay Day USA 2011.

This measure would declare February 22, 2011, to be Spay Day USA 2011 in California, and would request that Californians observe that day by having their dogs and cats spayed or neutered and by contributing to organizations that provide spay and neuter services.

Fiscal committee: no.

1 WHEREAS, More than 830,000 dogs and cats entered animal
2 shelters in California during 2009, the most recent year for which
3 statewide data is available; and

4 WHEREAS, Approximately one-half of these animals were not
5 reclaimed by their owners or were not adopted by new owners,
6 and thus were euthanized; and

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

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

13 WHEREAS, The cost to California government and nonprofit
14 agencies of handling and euthanizing discarded animals is

1 estimated to approach one-quarter of one billion dollars per year;
2 and

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

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

9 WHEREAS, Californians can contribute to this effort by spaying
10 or neutering their own companion animals and by supporting
11 programs in their communities that offer accessible spay and neuter
12 services; and

13 WHEREAS, Veterinarians, humane societies, animal control
14 agencies, and national and local animal welfare organizations will
15 join together to advocate the spaying or neutering of dogs and cats
16 on “Spay Day USA 2011,” an annual campaign of the Humane
17 Society of the United States; and

18 WHEREAS, In particular, the Sacramento area has become a
19 leader in coordinating Spay Day USA events, spaying or neutering
20 nearly 1,000 dogs and cats during each of the past 10 years, with
21 nearly 1,000 dogs and cats scheduled for spaying or neutering for
22 Spay Day USA 2011; now, therefore, be it

23 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate*
24 *thereof concurring,* That the Legislature of the State of California
25 declares February 22, 2011, to be Spay Day USA 2011 in
26 California and requests Californians to observe the day by having
27 their dogs and cats spayed or neutered and by contributing to
28 charitable organizations that provide spay and neuter services; and
29 be it further

30 *Resolved,* That the Legislature further requests that California
31 veterinarians work with animal shelters and rescue groups to
32 provide accessible spay and neuter services; and be it further

33 *Resolved,* That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies
34 of this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.