



California Taxpayers for Safe and Healthy Pets

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MAN'S BEST FRIEND EXECUTED!

Over 500,000 Healthy Cats and Dogs Are Killed Annually

SACRAMENTO – Assemblymember Lloyd Levine (D-Van Nuys) was recently joined by legendary television star Bob Barker and many members of the California Healthy Pets Coalition in relaunching Assembly Bill 1634 – the California Healthy Pets Act – a measure that aims to prevent the needless killing of hundreds of thousands of animals a year while simultaneously saving taxpayers millions of dollars.

The measure, which cleared two Assembly committees and was ultimately passed on to the Senate by the full Assembly, is currently in the Senate Local Government Committee, where it will be heard in early 2008.

“Since the end of the legislative session, our coalition has been working with stakeholders and other members to strengthen Assembly Bill 1634,” said Assemblymember Levine, who serves as Chair of the Assembly Select Committee on Animal Welfare. “At the same time, we’ve continued to keep the door open to listen to the legitimate concerns of the bill’s detractors. I am confident that with the work we’ve put in, 2008 is going to be a successful year for our bill, which in turn means good things for our state’s budget and animal shelters.”

AB 1634 asks that most dogs and cats in the state of California be spayed or neutered. More than 20 common-sense exemptions are provided in the bill, including provisions for show and sporting dogs, law enforcement dogs, dogs used in search and rescue, pets that are too old or in poor health, and guide, service and signal animals.



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“The facts of this issue are really very simple. We have overcrowded shelters that are costing the taxpayers millions of dollars annually, and spaying and neutering is a tried and true approach,” said Judie Mancuso, Sponsor/Campaign Director for the California Healthy Pets Coalition. “This is the right legislation at the right time – a humane, common-sense and taxpayer-friendly solution to a real and costly problem. The needless killing of over 500,000 healthy animals and the waste of hundreds of millions of taxpayer dollars each year must end. With both the state and local governments facing critical budget decisions, we need to look for savings wherever we can.”

The California Healthy Pets Act is supported by elected officials, law enforcement agencies, city and county agencies, humane societies and SPCAs, veterinarians and veterinary hospitals, national animal welfare organizations, California rescue organizations, and thousands of individuals and organizations, with more joining the cause every day. For more information on the measure, please visit our Web site at www.cahealthypets.com.