



Dedicated to the rescue and rehabilitation of homeless animals and the reduction in pet overpopulation in Clark County

For immediate release: June 15, 2010

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Today Clark County Commissioners unanimously approved changes to Section 10 of the County Code regarding animals. As well as incorporating changes created by the spay/neuter ordinance the County passed in January of this year, new additions to the ordinance include:

- A breeder/show permit for people who have up to 8 intact cats or dogs for \$50 a year inspection fee. Dogs cannot be bred until 18 months old; one litter per year.
- Scanning of dead dogs or cats or potbelly pigs for microchip identification devices so that the owner can be notified.
- The spay/neuter requirement does not apply to animals harbored by a rescue group that has a policy and rules requiring the spaying or neutering of all dogs and cats PRIOR to placement of such animals for adoption. No vouchers can be used.
- All voluntarily surrendered animals will be scanned for a microchip. If a microchip is traced back to a rescue organization, the organization shall be notified along with the owner. If the owner does not respond, the rescue organization will be allowed to reclaim the animal before it is euthanized.
- Retailers or dealers must provide a written statement or sales contract containing the name and address of the owner and the date the dog or cat was born; where the dog or cat came from including the federal identification number (if there is one), a record of immunizations administered among other requirements.
- A retailer, dealer, breeder or operator shall not separate an animal from its mother until it is eight weeks of age or until the animal is accustomed to taking food as nourishment other than by nursing, whichever date is later.
- When the National Weather Service issues an excessive heat warning, dogs and cats must be provided with supplemental cooling to adequately reduce the temperature.
- The anti-tethering legislation on the length of chain and the limitation on tethering passed in the last legislative session
- Animals in crates or boxes must be able to stand up and turn around comfortably. Crates, boxes or receptacles must have a solid floor.
- Horse tripping has been expanded to include “causing the animal to fall, or lasso or rope the legs”
- The implementation of civil penalties for an offense in some instances with a hearing before the Animal Advisory Committee.

Efforts to make changes to the ordinance were headed by Commissioner Chris Giunchigliani and involved local groups including the Las Vegas Valley Humane Society, Heaven Can Wait Animal Society, and Nevada Voters for Animals working with the Clark County Animal Advisory Committee and Clark County Animal Control. Representatives of the Animal Foundation, People Against Cruelty to Animals (PACA) and the Humane Society of the U.S. also participated in the Animal Advisory Committee hearings and Commission hearings.