

ANIMAL ADVOCACY DAY

TUESDAY, APRIL 16 • SACRAMENTO, CA

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Please Vote AYE on the Following Bills

SB 1233 (Senator Wilk): Veterinary Medicine: Spay and Neuter Techniques

This bill would establish guidelines and a certification program for high-quality, high-volume spay and neuter surgeries. The University of California and Western University would implement the guidelines in veterinary elective coursework. When California is experiencing a significant and worsening shortage of veterinary professionals, this legislation highlights this speciality and provides an avenue to improve access to spay and neuter surgeries, ensuring both the best care and the most efficient use of limited resources.



AB 2216 (Assemblymember Haney): Housing Access for Renters with Pets Act

AB 2216 increases access to rental housing in California by prohibiting pet bans and requiring landlords to have reasonable justifications for not allowing a pet. The bill would prohibit landlords from charging additional pet rent, reducing burdensome costs for pet-owning tenants. AB 2216 would allow pets and families to stay together, reducing the likelihood of pet surrenders and expanding opportunities for pet adoptions. With overcrowding and a shortage of resources in our shelters, as well as the housing crisis, we desperately need a systemic solution to the lack of pet-inclusive housing.

AB 2248 (Assemblymember Maienschein): Contracts: Sales of Dogs and Cats

Misleading marketing tactics and predatory financial behaviors are allowing online brokers to take advantage of consumers and allowing puppy mills to continue to reach Californians. AB 2248 prevents any online brokers of dogs and cats from requiring a nonrefundable deposit. It also allows buyers to void the contract if the seller fails to disclose the original source of a dog or cat prior to a deposit being issued and requires sellers to return money to the buyers within 30 days if voided.

Please Vote NO on the Following Bill

AB 2265 (Assemblymember McCarty): Animals: Spaying, Neutering, and Euthanasia

While animal shelters are experiencing intense overcrowding, AB 2265 attempts to apply a policy that will result in more overcrowding, higher euthanasia, reduced adoptions, and greater barriers to attracting and retaining staff. What shelters need most is public support and an influx of adopters to further their lifesaving work. This bill is problematic on every front. It strips industry standard definitions and changes the state's policy on releasing dangerous animals, creating a significant public safety risk and rattling public confidence around the safety of pets available for adoption. It applies a non-sensical timeline to spay/neuter requirements that can't be met during a veterinary shortage. It requires public postings about euthanasia that do not work to increase adoptions but will scare the public away and increase online bullying and death threats to staff. Weighing down a shelter's ability to function through public hearings on policy, protocol, and program changes will only stop the advancement of lifesaving and life-altering opportunities.

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AB 1983 (Assemblymember Kalra): **Prevention of Animal Homelessness Voluntary Tax Contribution Fund**

AB 1983 would re-establish the Prevention of Animal Homelessness and Cruelty Voluntary Tax Contribution Fund to support municipal animal control agencies in spay and neuter. AB 1983 would re-initiate the program allowing an individual to designate a contribution to the Fund on their tax return, thereby allowing compassionate Californians to continue to contribute and support efforts to bring spay and neuter services to pet guardians who need incentives and access to spay/neuter services. These contributions alleviate the cost burden for families who cannot afford to get their animal spayed or neutered. Data indicates that spay and neuter programs are the most effective strategies for reducing animal homelessness and shelter intakes.

AB 1988 (Assemblymember Muratsuchi): **Animals: Availability for Adoption or Release**

AB 1988 aligns state statute by adding clarifying language to allow kittens and puppies surrendered by their owners to be made immediately available to nonprofit rescue and adoption groups. Amidst the overwhelming crisis facing our shelters, this bill will help ensure that precious shelter space is available when needed and that surrendered puppies and kittens may find a home swiftly.

AB 2964 (Assemblymember Hart): **Strengthening Enforcement Against Cockfighting**

AB 2964 deters illegal cockfighting by setting a new criminal standard of evidence to prosecute violations of the cockfighting ban. The legislation creates a rebuttable presumption that anyone who possesses more than 3 roosters per acre, or 25 total, has the birds for fighting. AB 2964 makes an exemption for commercial poultry operations, schools, animal agencies, and Future Farmers of America and 4-H projects. AB 2964 will help combat illegal, inhumane cockfighting by placing the burden of proof on those who may be involved.

AB 3053 (Assemblymember Kalra): **State-supported Fair Exhibits: Regulations**

AB 3053 will ensure that state rules governing junior fair exhibits for programs such as 4-H and Future Farmers of America allow families whose children raise animals through those programs to spare the animals from being sent to slaughter at any time before the animal is transferred offsite.

Thank you for your dedication to animal protection issues!

