

RESOLUTION NO. 62,281–N.S.

DEPLORING THE PAINFUL NON-CURATIVE AND COSMETIC MUTILATION OF ANY ANIMALS IN THE CITY OF BERKELEY

WHEREAS, a non-curative purpose is any purpose other than to address an existing or actually recurring illness, disease, injury, birth defect, or abnormal condition that compromises the animal's health; and

WHEREAS, cats and kittens may be declawed to prohibit them from scratching furniture; and

WHEREAS, declawing includes full or partial amputation of any part of the toe or paw and the removal or cutting of flexor tendons; and

WHEREAS, tail docking is the amputation of a dog's tail to suit the recommendations of a man-made breed standard set by the American Kennel Club; and

WHEREAS, some breeds of dogs with naturally floppy ears have traditionally had their ears cropped to stand up straight for cosmetic purpose; and

WHEREAS, there is no health benefit to the dog and no scientific evidence that cropping has any effect on the incidence of ear infections; and

WHEREAS, these surgeries are painful and can place the animal under unnecessary risk of infection and even anesthetic death; and

WHEREAS, some of these procedures involve complex considerations, veterinarians are urged to work with their clients to offer options and help their clients make the most humane decisions.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the City of Berkeley deplore the painful non-curative and cosmetic mutilation of any animals within the City of Berkeley.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that veterinarians are urged to work with their clients to offer options and help their clients make the most humane decisions.

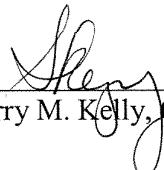
The foregoing Resolution was adopted by the Berkeley City Council on November 4, 2003 by the following vote:

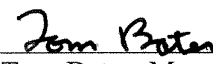
Ayes: Councilmembers Hawley, Maio, Olds, Shirek, Spring, Worthington, Wozniak and Mayor Bates.

Noes: None.

Absent: Councilmember Breland.

Attest:

  
Sherry M. Kelly, City Clerk

  
Tom Bates, Mayor