

Meeting Date: August 20, 2013

Report Type: Discussion

**Law and Legislation
Committee Report**

915 I Street, 1st Floor

www.CityofSacramento.org

Title: Support for SCR 61 (Galgiani) a Resolution Relative to the Official State Pet

Location: Citywide

Issue: There are currently over eight million abandoned pets living in the United States and three to four million are euthanized every year. To raise awareness of shelter animals, it is proposed that the California State Legislature declare the Shelter Pet as the Official State Pet.

Recommendation: That the Committee approve a support position for SCR 61 (Galgiani)

Contact: Gina Knepp, Animal Services Manager, (916) 808-8333, Department of General Services

Presenter: Randi L. Knott, Intergovernmental Relations Officer, (916) 808-5771, Office of the City Manager

Department: Department of General Services

Division: Animal Services

Dept ID:

Attachments:

- 01 Description/Analysis
- 02 Proposed Resolution
- 03 Letter of Support

Submitted By:

Adobe Signature:

Approved By:

Adobe Signature:

Attachment 01 – Description/Analysis

Issue: Each year there are over eight million abandoned pets living in animal shelters in the United States. Three to four million cats and dogs are euthanized every year. The California State Legislature seeks to raise public awareness of shelter animals by declaring then Shelter Pet as the Official State Pet.

Policy Considerations: Support of this resolution is not addressed in the current Legislative Platform approved by the City Council. Therefore, staff is bringing it forward for consideration.

Economic Impacts: n/a

Environmental Considerations: n/a

Sustainability: n/a

Commission/Committee Action: n/a

Rationale for Recommendation: The City Council has historically supported the adoption of the animals brought to the Front Street Shelter and have sought to minimize the number of animals euthanized. This resolution continues that support.

Financial Considerations: n/a

Emerging Small Business Development (ESBD): No goods or services are being purchased under this report.

Attachment 02 – Background

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE— 2013–2014 REGULAR SESSION

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

No. 61

Introduced by Senator Galgiani

July 08, 2013

Relative to the official State Pet.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SCR 61, as introduced, Galgiani. Official State Pet.
This measure would declare a shelter pet as the official State Pet.

DIGEST KEY

Fiscal Committee: NO

BILL TEXT

WHEREAS, There are currently around eight million abandoned pets living in animal shelters in the United States; and
WHEREAS, Three to four million of these dogs and cats are euthanized every year; and
WHEREAS, The Legislature seeks to raise public awareness of shelter animals; now, therefore, be it
Resolved by the Senate of the State of California, the Assembly thereof concurring, That the Legislature hereby declares a shelter pet as the official
State Pet; and be it further
Resolved, That the Secretary of the Senate transmit copies of this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.

Attachment 03 – Letter of Support

August 20, 2013

1.

The Honorable Cathleen Galgiani
Member, California State Senate
State Capitol, Room 4082
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Official State Pet - SCR No. 61 (Galgiani) - Support

Dear Senator Galgiani:

On behalf of the **City of Sacramento** I am writing to express our enthusiastic support of Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 61, which would declare a Shelter Pet as the official State Pet.

Each year, between 700,000 and 800,000 animals are taken in by California's public and private shelters. Sadly, less than half of these animals will be adopted into new homes. Municipal animal shelters like ours often do the impossible to save these animals and find them forever and loving homes. But, our resources are limited. Having a Shelter Pet be the official State Pet would encourage those looking to bring an animal into their lives to consider adopting a shelter pet rather than purchasing one from a breeder or pet store. A pet adopted is a life saved.

Thank you very much for introducing SCR No. 61.

Sincerely,

Jay Schenirer, Chair
Law & Legislation Committee
Mayor Pro Tem

Cc: State Humane Association of California