

DUPAGE COUNTY PUPPY MILL WORKSHOP

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The Pet Store Lobby
State Law
Local Ordinance Summary
Lobbying 101



The Pet Store Lobby

- SB 1882 (Microchipping)
- The Illinois Pet Lovers Association
 - *“The Illinois Pet Lovers Association is a collection of Illinois pet store owners, veterinarians, pet suppliers and customers dedicated to the responsible sale of healthy pets from reputable breeders.”*



The Pet Store Lobby (cont)

- SB 1882 (Microchipping)
- Contained numerous harmful provisions

SB1882

- 10 -

LRB100 06286 SMS 16323 b

(e) It is recognized that the sourcing of dogs and cats into Illinois is a matter of statewide interest to protect the health and safety of both the animals and the citizens of Illinois. A home rule unit may not regulate the sourcing of dogs and cats sold by pet shop operators, dog dealers, or cattery operators. This Section is a denial and limitation of home rule powers and functions under subsection (h) of Section 6 of Article VII of the Illinois Constitution.

- An attempt to falsify their own inspection report!
- Multi-state preemption attempts (AL, FL, KA, NE, OK, RI, TN, WV, MI (Gov veto!))



Illinois State Law

SB 1882 (Law)

- pet stores to only acquire dogs from USDA licensed breeders that have had no direct or critical non-compliance citations within prior 2 years
- Pet stores must acquire and retain for two years copies of the breeder inspection reports.
- Microchipped



Illinois State Law

Puppy Lemon Law

- Provides a list of information that a pet store must disclose to the consumer prior to selling a dog or a cat
- Requires a pet store to notify the Department of Agriculture (and recent customers in some cases) if there is an outbreak of distemper, parvovirus, or other contagious and potentially life-threatening disease
- Provides a level of protection and financial remedy to consumers who purchase an ill dog or cat from an Illinois pet store



Local Ordinance Summary

- Illinois has 10 humane pet store ordinances!
 - [Waukegan, IL](#) – Enacted June 2012
 - [Chicago, IL](#) – Enacted March 2014
 - [Cook County, IL](#) – Enacted April 2014
 - [Warrenville, IL](#) – Enacted February 2016
 - [Crest Hill, IL](#) – Enacted October 2017
 - [Kankakee County, IL](#) – Enacted May 2018
 - [Vernon Hills, IL](#) – Enacted February 2019
 - [Downers Grove, IL](#) – Enacted March 2019; effective October 2019
 - [West Chicago, IL](#) – Enacted March 2019
 - [Buffalo Grove, IL](#) – Enacted June 2019



National Momentum

- 309 local ordinances in the United States!
- 2 States: California and Maryland
- Pending State Legislation
 - Pennsylvania, New York, Wisconsin, Massachusetts, and Maine (On Gov's desk)
- More state bills to be introduced next year



Lobbying 101

- Learn about current law
 - State and local laws
- Do your research
- Get community support
- Find a friend in the office
- Draft the ordinance
- Testify
- Be ready for tough questions



Lobbying 101: Do Your Research

- Research which pet stores in the area would be affected
- Find out where those pet stores are getting their puppies: CVIs, or simply ask the pet store where they source their puppies. Reference Bailing Out Benji's research.
- Research the breeders that are sourcing to the pet stores: USDA inspection reports, state inspection reports, Horrible Hundred, ASPCA breeder gallery, Contact your local humane society, shelter, and Better Business Bureau to see if there are any complaints about the pet stores or their puppies
- Visit humanesociety.org/puppymillresearch for fact sheets, reports, statistics and more



Lobbying 101: Community Support

- Animal advocates
- Reputable breeders
- Puppy Friendly Pet Stores
- Animal shelter workers and directors
- Animal control officers
- Former pet store employees
- Veterinarians and veterinary technicians
- Victims – someone who has purchased a sick pet store puppy



Lobbying 101: Find A Friend in Office

- Contact your council or village member
- Find and animal friendly trustee or council member
- Ask friends, family, or neighbors if they know a trustee or council member



Lobbying 101: Draft the Ordinance

- Look at ordinances that have already passed:
humanesociety.org/pmlocalities
- Reach out to HSUS and we can help you draft language that is effective, legally sound and fits into the existing code in your locality



Lobbying 101: Testify

- If your Council calls a public meeting to discuss your proposal, testify and get members of your coalition to testify with you
- Plan a head of time to make sure your talking points don't overlap with someone else's



Lobbying 101: Be Ready for Tough Questions

- Will an ordinance banning the sale of commercially-bred dogs and cats in pet stores close down local businesses?
- Don't some pet stores buy their puppies from responsible breeders?
- Will a ban on the sale of commercially-bred puppies in pet stores drive consumers to purchase puppies online from even more substandard, unlicensed breeders?



DuPage County
ANIMAL SERVICES
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If the Ordinance Passes/Doesn't Pass

- If the ordinance passes: you have achieved a great accomplishment! But keep a look out to make sure the ordinance is enacted as is, well-enforced, and make sure it doesn't get repealed later on.
- If the ordinance doesn't pass: don't worry! There are many times when Councils don't take up an issue simply because they need more time, they have other priorities, etc. Keep pushing until the timing is right!



But if it does pass...

