

ANALYSIS

This ordinance amends Title 10 – Animals of the Los Angeles County Code, relating to the licensing, care and breeding of animals.

The purpose of the ordinance is to add requirements relating primarily to the breeding of dogs and cats to ensure the health and safety of breeding dogs and cats. Related changes were made to add violations of the breeding and hobby breeding provisions to the list of misdemeanors, to add additional prerequisites for the licensing and record keeping of animal facilities, and to the definition of "person." The ordinance also deletes references to "kennels" and "establishments" and clarifies the meaning of relevant provisions.

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DCR:ec

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ORDINANCE NO. _____

An ordinance amending Title 10 - Animals of the Los Angeles County Code, relating to the licensing, care and breeding of animals.

The Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles ordains as follows:

SECTION 1. Section 10.04.060 is hereby amended to read as follows:

10.04.060 Violation -- Penalty.

A. Any person violating any of the provisions of this title is guilty of an infraction, unless another penalty is provided for in this title.

B. Violation of Sections

10.12.190

10.12.200

10.20.045

10.20.280

10.20.310

10.28.060

10.28.280(C)

10.32.020

10.32.070

10.32.080

10.37.030

10.37.050(C)

10.37.060(F)

10.40.010

10.40.040

10.40.200

10.86.010

of this title is a misdemeanor, punishable as set forth in Penal Code section 19.

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SECTION 2. Section 10.08.190 is hereby amended to read as follows:

10.08.190 Person.

"Person" means and includes an individual, a company, firm, partnership, corporation, trust, limited liability company, and any association of persons or legal entity.

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SECTION 3. Chapter 10.28 is hereby amended to read as follows:

10.28 OTHER LICENSES FOR OTHER ANIMALS

SECTION 4. Section 10.28.010 is hereby amended to read as follows:

10.28.010 Application of Chapter 10.28 provisions.

This chapter applies to all licenses required by this Division 1 except licenses for individual dogs and cats.

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SECTION 5. Section 10.28.050 is hereby amended to read as follows:

10.28.050 License requirements – ~~Inspection~~ Prerequisites to issuance and renewal.

Upon the filing of any license or renewal application covered by this chapter, the director shall inspect and make such investigation as he deems proper. The director may issue a new license or renew the license if the following requirements are met:

A. The maintenance of the animal or animals at the location set forth in the application will not violate any law or ordinance of the county of Los Angeles, federal law or any law of the state of California, or constitute a menace to the health, peace or safety of the community;

B. The applicant has received approval from the director of the regional planning department that the maintenance of the animal or animals as defined in this chapter, at the location specified in the application for the license therefore, will not violate any provision of any zoning ordinance or other specific plan of land use; and

C. The applicant has not had a license, covered by this chapter, denied or revoked within the county of Los Angeles within twelve months prior to the application. However, the director may issue a license within the twelve month waiting period if the applicant is able to make the showing required by Section 10.28.150; and

D. The director may approve an application for a facility of more than fifty (50) dogs or cats if the following additional criterion are met:

1. The animal facility has operated as a licensed animal facility with fifty (50) or fewer dogs or cats for at least twelve (12) months and has had no violations of Title 10 or Title 22 within the past twelve (12) months;

2. The animal facility states on its application the maximum number of dogs and/or cats to be housed at the facility during the term of the license;

3. The animal facility demonstrates that it is able to house and care for the number of dogs or cats in compliance with the requirements of this section and all applicable requirements of Title 10;

4. The animal facility obtains approval from the director for an emergency evacuation plan, which is updated annually; and

5. The animal facility maintains adequate staffing at the facility twenty-four (24) hours a day to attend to the animals.

E. Any applicant applying for a breeding license, shall also comply with all of the requirements of 10.40.200 and obtain approval from the Department of Public Health, Veterinary Services, following an on-site inspection. The applicant shall also obtain approval from the Environmental Health division or any other division of the Department of Public Health, if deemed necessary, due to environmental or other public health concerns.

SECTION 6. Section 10.28.060 is hereby amended to read as follows:

10.28.060 License -- Required for certain activities and animals -- Certain animals exempt.

A.—Any person, including a new owner of an existing organization or business, shall not conduct or operate any animal facility listed in Section 10.90.010.H, or keep any wild animal, within the unincorporated area of Los Angeles, without first obtaining a license from the department, except as otherwise provided in this Section 10.28.060. Any person who has not applied for a license within 30 days after the expiration date of a license must obtain a new license, in place of a renewal license.

A license is not required for the keeping of the following animals for personal use:

1. Canaries;
2. Chinchillas;
3. Chipmunks;
4. Finches;
5. Gopher snakes;
6. Guinea pigs;
7. Hamsters;
8. Hawks;
9. King snakes;
10. Marmoset monkeys;
11. Mynah birds;
12. Parrots, parakeets, amazons, cockatiels, cockatoos, lories, lorikeets, love birds, macaws, and similar birds of the psittacine family;
13. Pigeons;
14. Ravens;

15. Squirrel monkeys;
16. Steppe eagles;
17. Toucans;
18. Turtles;
19. White doves;
20. Tropical fish excluding caribe;
21. Domesticated mice and rats.

~~B. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Division 1, the director shall waive the license requirement for a cat kennel (as defined in Section 10.08.090) or dog kennel (as defined in Section 10.08.130) when an animal permit has been obtained pursuant to Ordinance 1494, the Zoning Ordinance, (Los Angeles County Code Sections 22.52.330 and 22.56.420 through 22.56.530).~~

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SECTION 7. Section 10.28.090 is hereby amended to read as follows:

10.28.090 License -- Expiration date.

All licenses covered by this chapter shall automatically expire twelve (12) months following the date of issue, unless sooner revoked or terminated by any of the following actions: unless the licensee changes the location of his establishment the animal facility or the animal for which the license was issued, or the licensee sells, assigns, transfers or otherwise disposes of such establishment the animal facility or animal or his or her interest therein.

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