

Help defeat AB 1634: A proposed law to sterilize nearly all the dogs and cats in California.



ASSEMBLY BILL 1634 is an ill-conceived and irrational measure that will require the forced sterilization of nearly all dogs and cats statewide at four months of age. Owners who don't comply will face a \$500 fine and possible criminal penalties.

Dog impounds have fallen 86% over last 30 years.

Dogs impounds in California have been falling steadily for decades because local shelters use programs that work: Pet owner education, enforcement of "at large" and leash laws, and subsidized low-cost spay/neuter services. NONE of these programs receive state funding under AB 1634.

AB 1634 is poorly drafted, cannot be enforced, and will be extremely costly to administer.

Experience has shown that local jurisdictions cannot recoup the costs to administer and enforce mandated sterilization laws from penalties and fees alone. To pay for the new bureaucracy, funds are taken from other city and county services, including law enforcement and public safety.

Animal population issues must be resolved at the local – not state – level.

AB 1634 will blanket all 58 counties in California with a mandate to enact, staff and administer a costly law that many local and community shelters don't want or need.

AB 1634 will eliminate service dogs for the blind, deaf and disabled, police K9s, and working dogs.

Government-defined exemptions under AB 1634 for mixed breed cats and dogs are arbitrary and illogical. As a result, police dogs, search and rescue dogs, service dogs for the blind and disabled, and working stock dogs serving California's \$6 billion livestock industry will be decimated.

AB 1634 will result in unintended consequences.

AB 1634 will harm animals, punish millions of responsible pet owners, cost taxpayers billions, and increase both the abandoned pet population and euthanasia rates.

Similar forced spay/neuter laws have caused sharp increases in shelter intakes, euthanasia rates, and animal control costs.

SAN MATEO CO. (Unincorporated), CA:

Dog euthanasia Up 200%
Cat euthanasia Up 86%
Dog licensing..... Down 35%

LOS ANGELES, CA:

Animal Control expenses..... Up 269%
Dog licensing..... Down

PINELLAS COUNTY, FL:

Animal Control expenses..... Up 75%,
Shelter intakes..... Up
Euthanasia rates Up

FORT WORTH, TX: Repealed

Dog licensing..... Down
Rabies vaccinations..... Down
Rabies cases in City Up

AURORA, CO:

Animal Control expenses..... Up 75%
Shelter intakes Up
Euthanasia rates Up
Dog licensing..... Down

CAMDEN COUNTY, NJ:

Euthanasia rates Up
Breeder permitting..... Failed

KING COUNTY, WA:

Animal control expenses Up 57%
Dog licensing..... Down

CAPITOLA, CA:

Dog licensing..... Down
Income from licensing Down

MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MD: Repealed

Dog licensing..... Down 50%



PetPAC leads the fight to defeat Assembly Bill 1634 – a law to force the sterilization of nearly all dogs and cats in California.

Opposition to AB 1634 is widespread – and growing daily.

Guide, Hearing and Service Dogs

AB 1634 will have a devastating impact on the disabled community in California. Service dogs provide independence, safety and mobility to the blind, deaf and disabled, many of whom will face a future without these dogs if AB 1634 becomes law.

OPPOSED by:

- Guide Dogs of America
- Canine Companions for Independence
- Assistance Dogs International
- International Assn. of Assistance Dog Partners
- Paws'itive Teams

Law Enforcement and Public Safety

The bill's requirements for government-issued permits are arbitrary and restrictive. As a result, the availability of police dogs used for criminal apprehension, bomb and drug detection, and search and rescue operations will drop dramatically. To pay for AB 1634, funding and resources will need to be diverted from other local services, including law enforcement and public safety.

OPPOSED by:

- California Organization of Police and Sheriffs
- North American Police Work Dog Association
- United States Police Canine Association
- Western States Police Canine Association
- California Rescue Dog Association
- Canine Specialized Search Team
- National Coalition of Public Safety Officers

Livestock and Working Dogs

Tens of thousands of working ranch and cattle dogs will be ineligible for an exemption under AB 1634 – at any price. The bill makes no attempt to protect working stock dogs or the \$6 billion California livestock industry that depends on them.

OPPOSED by:

- California Cattlemen's Association
- California Farm Bureau Federation
- American Herding Breed Association
- American Working Dog Federation
- Save Our Dogs

Dog and Cat Owner Advocacy Groups

AB 1634 will unfairly punish responsible breeders who raise healthy, well cared-for cats and dogs and work to ensure that these pets are placed with responsible owners. Owners of purebreds will be forced to pay hundreds of dollars in government fees every year to be eligible to enter California dog and cat show competitions.

OPPOSED by:

- American Kennel Club
- The Cat Fanciers' Association (CFA)
- American Dog Owners Association
- The International Cat Association
- National Animal Interest Alliance
- California Federation of Dog Clubs
- The Animal Council

Opposed by Animal Welfare Groups

Under AB 1634, just taking possession of a nonspayed or un-neutered dog or cat in would result in a \$500 fine. Animal Rescue groups would have to close their doors or face civil and/or criminal prosecution.

OPPOSED by:

- International Animal Welfare Alliance
- Hundreds of Breed Rescue Groups

Opposed by Veterinarians

Veterinarians agree that surgery on a pet should be a decision made between pet owners and their veterinarians – not mandated by state government.

OPPOSED by:

Hundreds of California Veterinarians who state: "AB 1634 is poorly designed, cannot be enforced and would be extremely costly."

For a complete list of opposition to AB 1634, log-on to www.PetPAC.net