

1 **BY AUTHORITY**

2 ORDINANCE NO. \_\_\_\_\_  
3 SERIES OF 2010

COUNCIL BILL NO. CB10-0734  
COMMITTEE OF REFERENCE:  
4 Health, Safety, Education & Services

5  
6 **A BILL**

7 **For an ordinance amending Articles I and III of Chapter 8 of the Revised**  
8 **Municipal Code of the City and County of Denver regarding licensing of dogs**  
9 **and cats.**

10  
11 **WHEREAS**, it is in the public interest to require licensing of dogs and cats because licensing  
12 enables the reunion of missing pets with their owners; reduces crowding in animal shelters; helps  
13 to identify and control stray animals;

14 **WHEREAS**, licensing of dogs and cats over the age of six months, and certain vaccinations,  
15 have been required since 1995 but it is estimated that less than 10% of Denver pets are currently  
16 licensed and the vaccination rate is unknown;

17 **WHEREAS**, repeal of the documentary proof of vaccination prior to licensing and replacing  
18 that pre-condition with certification of vaccination during the licensing process retains the  
19 requirement for vaccinations and will promote the public interest in licensed pets while maintaining  
20 protection of public health and welfare.

21 **WHEREAS**, expanded opportunities to apply for and receive licenses is anticipated to  
22 enhance compliance with the licensing requirements of the city and provide additional information  
23 for the Department's follow-up with pet owners to improve vaccination compliance rates.

24 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY AND COUNTY OF DENVER:**

25 **Section 1.** That a new section 8-6 of Article I of Chapter 8 of the Revised Municipal  
26 Code shall be adopted by adding the language underlined as follows:

27 **"Sec. 8-6. Unlawful to give false information.**

28 It shall be unlawful for any person knowingly to make, convey or cause to be  
29 imparted or conveyed, false statements in applications or to furnish, present or  
30 exhibit any fictitious or false documentation pursuant to this chapter."

31 **Section 2.** That Section 8-63 of Article III of Chapter 8 of the Revised Municipal Code  
32 shall be amended by deleting the language stricken and adding the language underlined as  
33 follows:

34 **"Sec. 8-63. License; issuance.**

1 (a) Licenses may be applied for in person, by telephone, by mail, or online by the  
2 owner of a dog or cat or an owner's representative. Upon filing of the  
3 completed application, either online, in person, by telephone or by mail, and  
4 payment of the license fee, necessary fees, ~~and after receipt of satisfactory~~  
5 ~~proof of rabies immunization,~~ the manager or person lawfully designated and  
6 authorized to issue licenses on the manager's behalf shall issue to the  
7 applicant a one-year license to the applicant for the current year ~~for a one-year~~  
8 ~~license and~~ or a three-year license for the current and two subsequent years ~~for~~  
9 ~~a three-year license provided, however, that three-year licenses shall only be~~  
10 ~~issued for dogs and cats with a valid three years rabies vaccination.~~ Licensed  
11 veterinarians may be designated to issue licenses upon receipt of a properly  
12 completed application and fee, or they may ~~and~~ submit applications for licenses  
13 on behalf of their clients, and as provided by the board of environmental  
14 health; ~~†~~The manager may nominally compensate veterinarians for ~~submitting~~  
15 processing licenses.

16 (b) The license tag shall be attached to the each licensed dog or cat ~~at all times~~  
17 when it is off the property of the owner by means of a collar or harness, and it  
18 shall be unlawful to place this tag on any ~~dog or cat~~ animal other than the dog  
19 ~~or cat~~ for which the license was issued ~~purchased~~.

20 (c) The license tag shall be attached to each licensed cat at all times when it is off  
21 the property of the owner by means of a collar or harness unless the cat bears  
22 a visible tattoo or identifiable microchip, and it shall be unlawful to place this tag  
23 on any animal other than the cat for which the license was issued."

24 **Section 3.** That Section 8-63 of Article III of Chapter 8 of the Revised Municipal Code  
25 shall be amended by deleting the language stricken and adding the language underlined as  
26 follows:

27 **"Sec. 8-64. Rabies vaccination certification requirement.**

28 Licenses ~~shall not be issued for any dog or cat unless satisfactory proof of rabies~~  
29 ~~vaccination is presented to the manager, unless such person presents to the~~  
30 ~~manager a written statement from a licensed Colorado veterinarian that vaccination~~  
31 ~~for rabies would be detrimental to the health of the specific dog or cat.~~ The owner  
32 shall certify on the license application that the dog or cat has been vaccinated for  
33 rabies as required in division 2 of this Article II or shall agree to provide within thirty

1           (30) days following issuance of the license proof of vaccination or a written statement  
2           from a licensed veterinarian that vaccination for rabies would be detrimental to the  
3           health of the specific dog or cat.”

4 COMMITTEE APPROVAL DATE: October 5, 2010

5 MAYOR-COUNCIL DATE: October 12, 2010

6 PASSED BY THE COUNCIL: \_\_\_\_\_,  
7 2010

8 \_\_\_\_\_ - PRESIDENT

9 APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_ - MAYOR \_\_\_\_\_,  
10 2010

11 ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_ - CLERK AND RECORDER,  
12 EX-OFFICIO CLERK OF THE  
13 CITY AND COUNTY OF DENVER

14 NOTICE PUBLISHED IN THE DAILY JOURNAL: \_\_\_\_\_, 2010; \_\_\_\_\_,  
15 2010

16 PREPARED BY: Jacqueline H. Berardini, Assistant City Attorney   DATE: October 14, 2010

17 Pursuant to section 13-12, D.R.M.C., this proposed ordinance has been reviewed by the office of  
18 the City Attorney. We find no irregularity as to form, and have no legal objection to the proposed  
19 ordinance. The proposed ordinance is not submitted to the City Council for approval pursuant to  
20 § 3.2.6 of the Charter.

21 David R. Fine, City Attorney

22 BY: \_\_\_\_\_, Assistant City Attorney

23 DATE: \_\_\_\_\_, 2010

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