

1 **BY AUTHORITY**

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

COUNCIL BILL NO. \_\_\_\_\_  
COMMITTEE OF REFERENCE:  
Health, Safety, Education & Services

6 **A BILL**

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

9  
10 **WHEREAS**, it is in the public interest to require licensing of dogs and cats because licensing  
11 enables the reunion of missing pets with their owners; reduces crowding in animal shelters; helps to  
12 identify and control stray animals;

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

16 **WHEREAS**, repeal of the licensing condition that animals be vaccinated while nevertheless  
17 retaining the requirement for vaccinations will promote the public interest in licensed pets while  
18 maintaining protection of public health and welfare.

19 **WHEREAS**, expanded opportunities to apply for and receive licenses will enhance compliance  
20 with the licensing requirements of the city and provide additional information for the Department's  
21 follow-up with pet owners regarding compliance with vaccination requirements.

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

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

25 **“Sec. 8-6. Unlawful to give false information.**

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

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

31 **“Sec. 8-63. License; issuance.**

32 (a) Licenses may be applied for in person, by mail, or online by the owner of a dog or  
33 cat or owner's representative. Upon filing of the completed application, either

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

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

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

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

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

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

31 COMMITTEE APPROVAL DATE:

32 MAYOR-COUNCIL DATE:

33 PASSED BY THE COUNCIL: \_\_\_\_\_, 2010

1 \_\_\_\_\_ - PRESIDENT  
2 APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_ - MAYOR \_\_\_\_\_, 2010  
3 ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_ - CLERK AND RECORDER,  
4 EX-OFFICIO CLERK OF THE  
5 CITY AND COUNTY OF DENVER  
6 NOTICE PUBLISHED IN THE DAILY JOURNAL: \_\_\_\_\_, 2010; \_\_\_\_\_, 2010  
7 PREPARED BY: Jacqueline H. Berardini, Assistant City Attorney DATE: August 10, 2010  
8 Pursuant to section 13-12, D.R.M.C., this proposed ordinance has been reviewed by the office of the  
9 City Attorney. We find no irregularity as to form, and have no legal objection to the proposed  
10 ordinance. The proposed ordinance is not submitted to the City Council for approval pursuant to §  
11 3.2.6 of the Charter.  
12 David R. Fine, City Attorney  
13 BY: \_\_\_\_\_, Assistant City Attorney DATE: \_\_\_\_\_, 2010