

1 **BY AUTHORITY**

2 ORDINANCE NO. _____
3 SERIES OF 2011

COUNCIL BILL NO. _____
COMMITTEE OF REFERENCE:
4 Health, Safety, Education & Services

5 **A BILL**

6 **For an ordinance amending Article III of Chapter 8 of the Revised Municipal**
7 **Code of the City and County of Denver regarding dog and cat licensing.**

8
9 **WHEREAS**, the City has fully reviewed and considered necessary revisions to matters
10 governing dog and cat licensing,

11 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY AND COUNTY OF**
12 **DENVER:**

13 **Section 1.** That Section 8-61 of Article III of Chapter 8 of the Revised Municipal Code shall
14 be amended by deleting the language stricken and adding the language underlined as follows:

15 **“Sec. 8-61. License required.**

16 It shall be unlawful for the owner, possessor or keeper of any domestic dog
17 (Canis Familiaris) over the age of six (6) months or domestic cat (Felis catus) over
18 the age of six (6) months to keep, maintain, house or have in possession within the
19 city a dog or cat without first having obtained a license for such dog or cat. ~~Such one-~~
20 ~~year licenses shall be valid for twelve (12) months from the date of issue and three-~~
21 ~~year licenses shall be valid for thirty-six (36) months from the date of issue.~~ Dogs or
22 cats over the age of six (6) months purchased, obtained or otherwise acquired shall
23 be licensed within thirty (30) days after such acquisition or, if under, within thirty (30)
24 days after reaching six (6) months of age. Individual licenses shall not be required for
25 dogs or cats being held for redemption or adoption by the municipal animal shelter,
26 an approved shelter owned and operated by a tax-exempt humane organization or a
27 licensed pet shop.”

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

30 **“Sec. 8-63. Licenses; issuance.**

31 (a) Licenses may be applied for in person, by telephone, by mail, or online by the
32 owner of a dog or cat or an owner's representative. Upon filing of the completed
33 application, either online, in person, by telephone or by mail, and payment of the license
34 fee, the manager or person lawfully designated and authorized to issue licenses on the

1 manager's behalf shall issue to the applicant a one-year license for the current year, ~~or~~
2 a three-year license for the current and two (2) subsequent years, or a permanent
3 license for the lifetime of the dog or cat. Licensed veterinarians may be designated to
4 issue licenses upon receipt of a properly completed application and fee, or they may
5 submit applications for licenses on behalf of their clients, and as provided by the board
6 of environmental health. The manager may nominally compensate veterinarians for
7 processing licenses.

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

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

15 **Section 3.** That Section 8-65 of Chapter 8 of the Revised Municipal Code shall be
16 amended by deleting the language stricken and adding the language underlined as follows:

17 **“Sec. 8-65. - License fees; exemptions.**

18 (a) A license fee for dogs and cats shall be assessed annually, ~~or~~ triennially, or
19 once at the time of application for a permanent license to the owner of the animal.
20 The manager shall assess additional fees for the same day issuance of a license,
21 and replacement of a lost, misplaced or destroyed license.

22 (b) The following categories of animals shall be exempt from the licensing fee:

- 23 (1) One (1) sterilized dog and/or one (1) sterilized cat owned by any
24 person sixty-five (65) years of age or older shall be exempt;
- 25 (2) Guide dogs for the blind and deaf;
- 26 (3) Service dogs used by the handicapped;
- 27 (4) Police service dogs;
- 28 (5) Rescue dogs.”

29 COMMITTEE APPROVAL DATE:

30 MAYOR-COUNCIL DATE:

31 PASSED BY THE COUNCIL: _____, 2011

32 _____ - PRESIDENT

33 APPROVED: _____ - MAYOR _____, 2011

1 ATTEST: _____ - CLERK AND RECORDER,
2 EX-OFFICIO CLERK OF THE
3 CITY AND COUNTY OF DENVER

4 NOTICE PUBLISHED IN THE DAILY JOURNAL: _____, 2011; _____, 2011

5 PREPARED BY: Jacqueline H. Berardini, Assistant City Attorney DATE: May 31, 2011

6 Pursuant to section 13-12, D.R.M.C., this proposed ordinance has been reviewed by the office of
7 the City Attorney. We find no irregularity as to form, and have no legal objection to the proposed
8 ordinance. The proposed ordinance is not submitted to the City Council for approval pursuant to §
9 3.2.6 of the Charter.

10 David W. Broadwell, City Attorney

11 BY: _____, Assistant City Attorney

12 DATE: _____, 2011

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