

# THE ANIMAL COUNCIL

**P.O. Box 168, Millbrae CA 94030**

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September 14, 2008

FAX: 916-558-3160

Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger  
State Capitol Building  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: AB 1122, Animal abuse: sale of live animals.      VETO REQUEST

Dear Governor Schwarzenegger :

We urge you to veto AB 1122, because late amendments restricting otherwise legal sales of animals either at or arising from conversations begun at organized shows and made without direct consultation with stakeholders, in practical effect criminalize these transactions that in no way are related to author's original stated purpose: to protect the public from unidentifiable pet sellers handing off puppies in parking lots.

This ostensible effort to create exemptions for "show" sales only if 5 "circumstances" is meaningless as these cannot all exist. For example, most California localities have NO PERMITTING process for shows, typically held at rented premises on a one-time basis. The requirement that each and every participant complies with every possible animal law would be impossible to ascertain or assure, rendering this entire exemption utterly worthless. We have no expertise as to bird show sales, but cat show hall sales are a traditional and accepted practice. While sales are not a part of dog shows except beginning conversations that will lead to sales later and elsewhere or sometimes finalizing a sale that has previously and elsewhere been negotiated, AB 1122 suggests criminal liability for these innocent acts. In other words, the public does not expect to buy a dog at a dog show, or soon learns this is not done in one transaction at the show, but the public seeking a pedigreed cat does know that a few kittens may be available at shows as a convenience to both sellers and potential buyers. For these reasons, we must now oppose AB 1122 as an insidious intrusion on the public's opportunity to purchase animals from reputable sources. Please veto AB 1122.

THE ANIMAL COUNCIL (TAC) is a California nonprofit, public benefit corporation founded in 1991 to seek positive, humane solutions to the challenges of detrimental animal public policies, legislation and regulation through study, analysis and application of animal husbandry, statistics and law, and at the same time preserve human benefit from all species, breeds and registries .

Very truly yours,

SHARON A. COLEMAN  
President, The Animal Council