



## LOS ANGELES COUNTY HEARINGS TO BE HELD ON NEW PET STORE REGULATIONS

**Tuesday, March 9 -- Commerce, CA**  
**Wednesday, March 10 -- Palmdale, CA**

### The Issue

The County of Los Angeles Department of Animal Care and Control has proposed to amend Title 10 of its Regulations to include a number of significant changes that will affect pet stores, breeding kennels, and other “animal facilities.”

The proposed changes affect dogs, cats AND all animals “normally kept as pets for sale or exchange in return for consideration.”

The **proposed changes** can be found at [http://animalcare.lacounty.gov/cms1\\_142916.pdf](http://animalcare.lacounty.gov/cms1_142916.pdf)

The **current regulations** (Title 10) can be found at: <http://search.municode.com/html/16274/index.htm>

### The Impact

#### Dogs and Cats:

Portions of the proposal apply to dogs and cats. Read the proposal carefully to determine how it impacts your facility.

- Under the new rules cages would not be allowed to be stacked
- Working smoke alarms and having a means of fire suppression in each room where animals are kept
- Flooring must be solid (metal strands and wire flooring prohibited)
- Each dog over 8 weeks must be provided with minimum of 1 hour exercise per 24-hour period in area at least 4 times size of primary enclosure.
- Ownership or control of dogs/cats limited to no more than 50 unless comply with a new section 10.28.050(D) which requires, among other things, the facility **must be staffed 24 hours a day, 7 days a week** and one must satisfy the Department they are able to house and care for the number of animals. Proposal is not clear if the rule applies to the presence of 50 or more animals at one time or over the course of a year.
- A new Section 10.40.200 covering breeders, contains detailed requirements for maintenance and care.
- Must be micro-chipped at 8 weeks.
- Breeders could not remove offspring from Dam before 6 weeks unless for medical reasons.



## Other Animals:

- “All other animals” must be given “adequate exercise proper for the individual animal under the particular circumstances.”
- Under the new rules cages would not be allowed to be stacked
- 24/7 staffing if have more than 50 animals in the facility. See proposed Section 10.40.010(Z). If less than 50 animals, you must have adequate staffing for at least 8 hours a day, but **if you have more than 50 fish, reptiles, birds, etc., or any combination thereof, you must staff the facility 24/7.**
- Records must be kept on each animal (including dogs/cats). Animals defined in Section 10.08.020 “means any animal, poultry, bird, reptile, fish or any other dumb creature“  
Proprietary business information will be available for animal activists to use to harass people.
- The Department may also impose “reasonable conditions” on a breeding license for non-dog/cat breeders.

## Recommended Action

- Download a copy of the proposed regulation and read it very carefully.
- Also, download a copy of the current regulations so you can compare the changes: See Sections 10.28.050, 10.28.060, 10.28.090, 10.32.070, 10.36.080, 10.37.100, 10.40.010, 10.40.040, and 10.40.100.
- **Don’t be misled to think this only applies to dogs and cats – it does not!**
- The Los Angeles Department or Animal Care and Control will hold two public meetings. If you are impacted by this proposal you need to attend one or both of the meetings and submit written comments to the Department.
- Also contact your elected County officials
- The two meetings will be held on March 9 and 10:
  - **Child Support Services**  
Phillip Browning Room  
5500 S. Eastern Avenue, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor  
Commerce, CA 90040  
**March 9, 2010 -- 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.**
  - **City Council Chambers**  
38300 Sierra Highway  
Palmdale, CA 93550  
**March 10, 2010 -- 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.**
- If you are unable to attend either of the meetings, you may send written comments/questions related to the proposed ordinance changes to: [ACCLegal@animalcare.lacounty.gov](mailto:ACCLegal@animalcare.lacounty.gov)
- **If you have animals in your facility and the proposed regulations are adopted without any changes, be prepared to go out of business or move to another county!!**