



April 23, 2021

TO:

Mayor Jerry L. Demings

-AND-

County Commissioners

FROM:

Yolanda G. Martinez, EdPhD., PhD., Directo

Health Services Department

SUBJECT:

Retail Pet Stores in Orange County

Work Session - May 11, 2021

On May 11, 2021, the Board will hold a work session addressing retail pet stores in Orange County. Several counties and municipalities have adopted ordinances prohibiting the sale of dogs and cats. The policy approach is aimed at reducing the demand for dogs and cats sourced from commercial breeders.

Staff will provide a presentation covering an overview of current ordinances adopted by counties in the state and present two draft ordinances, one requiring a full ban of retail sales of dogs and cats and one grandfathering existing pet stores.

The purpose of the presentation is to seek Board direction on which ordinance they want developed and brought back for public hearing.

YGM/sb

Attachments

Cc:

Danny Banks, Deputy County Administrator

John Goodrich, Deputy Director, Health Services Department

Diane Summers, Manager, Animal Services Division

2	04/27/2021 ORDINANCE NO. 2021-
4	AN ORDINANCE RELATING TO ANIMAL SERVICES IN ORANGE COUNTY, FLORIDA; ENACTING SECTION 5-53
8	OF THE ORANGE COUNTY CODE OF ORDINANCES ENTITLED "RETAIL SALE OF DOGS AND CATS"; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.
10	WHEREAS, Article VIII, section (1)(f) of the Florida Constitution and chapter 125, Florida Statutes, grant the Orange County Board of County Commissioners ("BCC") broad home rule authority to adopt ordinances to provide for the common good; and
L2	WHEREAS, section 828.27, Florida Statutes authorizes a county to enact an ordinance related to animal control or cruelty; and
L4	WHEREAS, there has been growing concern throughout Florida and the country involving the sale of dogs and cats from pet stores; and
L6 L8	WHEREAS, most dogs and cats sold in pet stores come from large-scale, commercial breeding facilities where the health and welfare of the animals is disregarded in order to maximize profits; and
20	WHEREAS, Current federal and state regulations do not adequately address the animal welfare and consumer protection problems that the sale of dogs and cats in pet stores pose; and
22	WHEREAS, the BCC deems the prohibition of the retail sale of dogs and cats in Orange County to be in the best interest of the health, safety and welfare of its residents and citizens and the public at large.
24	BE IT ORDAINED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF ORANGE
	COUNTY, FLORIDA:
26	Section 1: Enactment of New Section 5-53, Retail Sale of Dogs and Cats. New Section
	5-53 is hereby enacted to read as follows:
28	CHAPTER 5. ANIMALS

Article II. ANIMAL SERVICES

Sec. 5-53. – Retail Sale of Dogs and Cats by Pet Stores

- (a) Definitions. When used in this section, the following terms shall have the following meanings unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:
 - 1. Animal Rescue Organization shall mean a not-for-profit organization that has tax-exempt status under Section 501(c)(3) of the United States Internal Revenue Code, whose mission and practice is, in whole or in significant part, the rescue and placement of dogs or cats into permanent homes and that does not breed animals nor obtain animals in exchange for payment or compensation from any person that breeds or brokers animals.
 - 2. Animal Shelter shall mean the local animal control authority, public animal shelter, or private animal shelter maintained by or under contract with the county or municipality, devoted to the rescue, care, and adoption of stray or abandoned or unwanted animals; or any brick and mortar animal shelter whose primary mission is to find permanent homes or recues for sterilized, unwanted and homeless pets.
 - 3. Cat means any member of the species Catus felis.
 - 4. Certificate of source means a document which includes the following information about the dog or cat involved in any retail sale:
 - a. The name address, telephone number and email address of any breeder, wholesaler, and transporter;
 - b. breed;
 - c. color;
 - d. age

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- e. approximate weight; and
- f. signatures of the breeder, wholesaler and transporter.
- 5. Dog means any member of the species Canis Lupus Familiaris, or any genetic hybridization thereof, not under the jurisdiction of the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission.
- 6. Pet store means a retail establishment where animals are kept, sold or offered for sale on the premises. An animal shelter or animal rescue organization shall not be considered a pet store for the purposes of this Section.
- 7. Retail sale shall mean to sell (whether or not consideration for the animal, and/or animal services takes place at the same time and/or location), offer for sale, auction, barter, display for sale, adopt, rehome, exchange (for compensation or otherwise), give away, trade, deliver, lease, rent, include as part of a package deal, advertise to do any of the aforementioned, or otherwise dispose of dogs and/or cats to a person/s in a pet store or in association with a pet store.
- (b) Sale of Dogs or Cats Prohibited. It shall be a violation of this section for a pet store to engage in the retail sale of a dog or cat.
- (c) Adoptions. Nothing in this section shall prevent a pet store from providing space and appropriate shelter, food or care for animals owned by any animal rescue organization or animal shelter as defined in subsection (a) to display dogs or cats for adoption.

1. A pet store that provides space for the adoption of cats or dogs shall post, in a conspicuous location on the cage or enclosure of each such animal, a 78 sign stating the name of the animal rescue organization or animal shelter which owns the dog or cat offered for adoption. 80 2. The pet store may collect an adoption fee to be turned over to the animal rescue organization or animal shelter. 82 3. It shall be a violation of this section for a pet store to have any ownership interest in any dogs or cats displayed for adoption. 84 (d) Amortization period. Any existing pet store that is lawfully operating on or before (insert BCC hearing date) shall be permitted to continue the retail sale 86 of dogs or cats until (one year from BCC hearing date). 1. As a condition of continued operation during the amortization period, a 88 pet store shall not increase or enlarge its floor space. An existing pet store shall provide proof of its retail sales existing as of 90 (date of BCC hearing) to the Division manager through sales receipts, franchise agreements. leases other documentation readily 92 or authenticated as true and accurate documents. Proof of its retail sales existing as (date of BCC hearing) shall be provided to the Division 94 Manager within thirty (30) days of (BCC hearing date). Failure to provide required documentation will result in the loss of nonconforming 96 status.

- 3. Any existing pet store that voluntarily abandons the retail sale for a period of more than thirty (30) days, or ceases retail sale as a result of destruction by fire or other peril shall lose its nonconforming status.
- 4. Certificate of Source. During the amortization period, a pet store shall post and maintain in a conspicuous place, a certificate of source of each dog or cat offered for sale or transfer and shall provide a copy of such certificate to the purchaser or transferee of any dog or cat sold or transferred. The failure to maintain complete records on each dog and cat as required by this section shall constitute a separate violation as to each record missing or incomplete. Falsification of records by grandfathered pet stores is hereby deemed unlawful and subject to the penalties under this section.
- (e) *Applicability*. All provisions of this Ordinance shall be applicable throughout the incorporated and unincorporated areas of Orange County.
- (f) Enforcement. Provisions of this section may be enforced by any person having the authority to enforce county ordinances. Any pet store found to be in violation of the provisions of this section may be subject to any applicable enforcement mechanism available to Orange County, including but not limited to prosecution in the same manner as a misdemeanor as provided in Section 125.69, Florida Statutes. It shall be a violation of this section to fail to comply with any of the requirements or restrictions contained in this section.

	(g) Penali	ties. Each dog or cat sold or offered for sale made in violation of this
120	section	n shall constitute a separate violation. Each day a pet store is in violation
	of this	section shall constitute a separate offense.
122	a.	Consistent with Florida Law, any violation of this Ordinance is a civil
		infraction punishable by a maximum civil penalty not to exceed
124		\$500.00. A violation of this section shall be classified as a Category II
		offense as described in this Article. The amount of any penalties shall
126		be established in the Animal Services Resolution.
	b.	The county may initiate a civil action in any court of competent
128		jurisdiction to enjoin any violation of this section.
	c.	Imposition of a penalty for a violation does not excuse the violation nor
130		does it imply permission for the violation to continue. All pet shops
		found to be in violation will be required to correct or remedy such
132		violation immediately.
	Section 2. Effect	ive Date. This ordinance shall take effect upon its passage and as
134	provided by law.	
	ADOPTED this	Day of2021.
	ADOI TED tills	Day 012021.
136		ORANGE COUNTY, FLORIDA By: Board of County Commissioners
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140		By: Jerry L. Demings
142		Orange County Mayor
144		DATE:
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148	ATTEST: Phil Diamond, CPA, County Comptroller As Clerk of the Board of County Commissioners
150	By: Deputy Clerk
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Article II. ANIMAL SERVICES

Sec. 5-53. - Retail Sale of Dogs and Cats by Pet Stores

- (a) Definitions. When used in this section, the following terms shall have the following meanings unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:
 - 1. Adoption fee shall mean renumeration to recover the costs of feeding, sheltering, and providing care for a dog or cat without profit.
 - 2. Animal rescue organization shall mean a not-for-profit organization that has tax-exempt status under Section 501(c)(3) of the United States Internal Revenue Code, whose mission and practice is, in whole or in significant part, the rescue and placement of dogs or cats into permanent homes and that does not breed animals nor obtain animals in exchange for payment or compensation from any person that breeds or brokers animals.
 - 3. Animal shelter shall mean the local animal control authority, public animal shelter, or private animal shelter maintained by or under contract with the county or municipality, devoted to the rescue, care, and adoption of stray or abandoned or unwanted animals; or any brick and mortar animal shelter whose primary mission is to find permanent homes or recues for sterilized, unwanted and homeless pets.
 - 4. Cat shall mean any member of the species Catus felis.
 - 5. Certificate of source shall mean a document which includes the following information about the dog or cat involved in any retail sale:
 - a. The name address, telephone number and email address of any breeder, wholesaler, and transporter;

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		b. breed;
56		c. color;
		d. age
58		e. approximate weight; and
		f. signatures of the breeder, wholesaler and transporter.
60	6.	Dog shall mean any member of the species Canis Lupus Familiaris, or any
		genetic hybridization thereof, not under the jurisdiction of the Fish and
62		Wildlife Conservation Commission.
	7.	Existing pet store shall mean a lawfully operating pet store in existence, on
64		or before the effective date of this ordinance.
	8.	Grandfathered pet store shall mean an existing pet store that is registered
66		with the Division and therefore is permitted to continue the retail sale of
		dogs and/cats in accordance with the rules set forth in this section.
68	9.	Pet store shall mean a retail establishment where animals are kept, sold or
		offered for sale on the premises. An animal shelter or animal rescue
70		organization shall not be considered a pet store for the purposes of this
		section.
72	10.	Retail sale shall mean to sell (whether or not consideration for the animal,
		and/or animal services takes place at the same time and/or location), offer
74		for sale, auction, barter, display for sale, adopt, rehome, exchange (for
		compensation or otherwise), give away, trade, deliver, lease, rent, include
76		as part of a package deal, advertise to do any of the aforementioned, or

otherwise dispose of dogs and/or cats to a person/s in a pet store or in association with a pet store.

(b) Sale of Dogs or Cats Prohibited. It shall be a violation of this section for a pet store to engage in the retail sale of a dog or cat.

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- (c) *Adoptions*. Nothing in this section shall prevent a pet store from providing space and appropriate shelter, food or care for animals owned by any animal rescue organization or animal shelter as defined in subsection (a) to display dogs or cats for adoption.
 - 1. A pet store that provides space for the adoption of cats or dogs shall post, in a conspicuous location on the cage or enclosure of each such animal, a sign stating the name of the animal rescue organization or animal shelter which owns the dog or cat offered for adoption.
 - 2. The pet store may collect an adoption fee to be turned over to the animal rescue organization or animal shelter.
 - 3. It shall be a violation of this section for a pet store to have any ownership interest in any dog or cat displayed for adoption.
- (d) Grandfathered Pet Stores. It shall be a violation of this section for a pet store that does not have the grandfather privilege to engage in the retail sale of a dog or cat. Existing pet stores shall be permitted to continue the retail sale of dogs and/or cats in Orange County, provided that the store is registered with the Division as a grandfathered pet store and is at all times in full compliance with any and all existing and future retail sale regulations adopted by the county for

pet stores and provided they are in compliance with the applicable provisions of this section and the additional restrictions set forth below.

- 1. Existing pet stores shall be required to register for the grandfather privilege, by complying with the registration requirements set forth by the Division, within thirty (30) days of the effective date of this section.
 - a. An existing pet store shall provide proof of its retail sales existing as of (date of BCC hearing) to the Division through sales receipts, franchise agreements, leases or other documentation readily authenticated as true and accurate documents. Proof of its retail sales existing as (date of BCC hearing) shall be provided to the Division Manager within thirty (30) days of (BCC hearing date).
 - b. At the time of registration, existing pet stores shall inform the Division of all dogs and/or cats that are available for retail sale and were acquired, before the effective date of the ordinance, from breeders who do not meet the buying standards below.
 Those dogs and/or cats may be sold by the existing pet store, however, after the effective date of this section, all dogs and/or cats that will be available for retail sale by the existing pet store must be acquired from breeders who meet the buying standards.

120		c.	An owner of a grandfathered store who opens additional
			locations after the adoption of this Ordinance shall not be
122			entitled to the grandfathered privilege for those stores.
	2.	Grandfa	athered pet stores shall only purchase dogs and/or cats that are
124		intende	d to be sold to potential purchasers from breeders:
		a.	Approved and licensed by the USDA; and
126		b.	That have not received any direct violations from the USDA in
			the past five (5) years; and
128		c.	That have not received any state law violations, such as those set
			forth in Section 828.29, Florida Statutes, pertaining to
130			vaccinations and veterinarian inspection certificates, in the past
			five (5) years.
132	3.	Grandfa	athered pet stores shall have the following information readily
		availab	le for all potential purchasers, the Division and the State:
134		a.	The name of the United States Department of Agriculture
			(USDA) breeding facility where the dog or cat was bred; and
136		b.	The license number of the USDA breeding facility; and
		c.	The city and state of the dog or cat breeding origin;
138		d.	Specific contact information for the breeder of the dog or cat
			shall be made available by the pet store to its potential
140			purchasers and is required to be provided to the Division.
		e.	A sign, with lettering at least three inches tall, shall be placed in
142			clear view at all points of sale inside the grandfathered pet store,

stating the information required above is available for review by all potential purchasers, the Division, and the state upon request. 144 4. Grandfathered pet stores shall be inspected by the Division on an annual basis to ensure compliance with this section and any other 146 applicable provisions of this Article. The Division shall be allowed, at any reasonable time, to inspect 148 without notice, all domestic animals, all premises where animals are kept, all records pertaining to such animals, and all records pertaining 150 to the business. 6. A sign, with lettering at least three inches tall, shall be placed in clear 152 view at all points of sale inside the grandfathered pet store, stating that any complaints regarding the illness or death of a dog or cat, sold or 154 offered for sale by the pet store, may be reported to the Orange County Animal Services Division. The sign shall include the appropriate 156 Division phone number and website. 7. Before a dog or cat is offered for sale, the following medical standards 158 shall be met: 160 a. Prior to the sale of any dog, a veterinarian shall provide the below vaccines and anthelmintics against the following diseases and internal parasites: 162 i. Canine distemper ii. Leptospirosis 164 iii. Bordetella

166		iv. Parainfluenza
		v. Hepatitis
168		vi. Canine parvovirus
		vii. Rabies, if the dog is four (4) months of age or older and
170		the inoculation is administered by a veterinarian.
		viii. Roundworm
172		ix. Hookworm
	b.	Each dog over six (6) months of age shall be tested for
174		heartworm disease before being offered for sale.
176	c.	Before a cat is offered for sale, a veterinarian shall provide the below and anthelmintics against the following diseases and internal parasites:
178		i. Panleukopenia
		ii. Feline viral rhinotracheitis
180		iii. Calici virus
		iv. Rabies, if the cat is four (4) months of age or older and
182		the inoculation is administered by a veterinarian.
		v. Hookworm
184		vi. Roundworm
	d.	Each cat over eight (8) weeks of age shall also be tested for
186		feline leukemia virus and feline immunodeficiency virus before
		being offered for sale.
188	e.	The tests, vaccines and anthelmintics required by this section
		shall be administered prior to the dog or cat is offered for sale,
190		unless a veterinarian certifies on the official certification of

veterinary inspection that to vaccinate or deworm the dog or cat is not in the best medical interest of the dog or cat. If the veterinarian makes the required certification, the vaccine or anthelmintic may not be administered to that particular dog or cat.

- f. Each dog and cat in the possession of a grandfathered pet store shall be re-examined by a veterinarian a minimum of once every thirty (30) days.
- g. If the dog or cat is under four (4) months of age, the tests, vaccines and anthelmintics required by this section shall be administered no more than twenty-one (21) days before sale. If the dog or cat is four (4) months of age or older, the tests, vaccines, and anthelmintics required by this section shall be administered at or after three (3) months of age, but no more than one year before the sale.
- h. Each dog or cat shall be accompanied by an original current official certificate of veterinary inspection with the corresponding microchip identification for that animal at all times while being offered for sale. The buyer shall receive the original certificate. Copies of these certificates shall be held by the grandfathered pet store and the veterinarian for a period of three (3) years.

		i.	The examination of each dog and cat by a veterinarian shall
214			take place no more than thirty (30) days before the sale.
	8.	Each do	og or cat sold by grandfathered pet stores shall have a microchip
216		implant	ted prior to sale.
		a.	The grandfathered pet store shall register the microchip with
218			the national registry associated with the microchip and shall
			provide the microchip number and other identifying
220			information to the Division upon request.
		b.	No dog or cat need be microchipped if a licensed veterinarian,
222			exercising appropriate professional judgement, certifies in
			writing and under oath that an animal is medically unfit for the
224			microchipping procedure because of a physical condition
			which would be substantially aggravated by such procedure or
226			would likely cause the animal's death.
	9.	Grandf	athered pet stores shall comply with the following record
228		require	ments:
		a.	The pet store shall maintain records containing the following
230			information for each dog or cat offered for sale:
			i. Health certificate from a Florida licensed veterinarian;
232			and
			ii. Microchip information; and
234			iii. Sourcing and purchase information.

	b. Records for each dog and/ or cat that are present in the pet
236	store shall be maintained, in hard copy, for immediate
	inspection by potential purchasers and/or the Division.
238	c. A grandfathered pet store shall maintain a record of the date of
	death and known or suspected cause of death for any dog or cat
240	that dies while in the possession of the grandfathered pet store.
	Any dog or cat that dies while being treated by a veterinarian
242	or person at the request of the pet store, shall be considered in
	the possession of the pet store at the time of death.
244	i. The veterinarian shall specify the date of and known or
	suspected cause of death on the dog, or cat's medical
246	records.
	ii. The pet store shall maintain a copy of such record for a
248	period of two (2) years from the date of the dog or cat's
	death.
250	d. The failure to maintain complete records on each dog and cat as
	required by this section shall constitute a separate violation as to
252	each record missing or incomplete.
	e. Falsification of records by grandfathered pet stores is hereby
254	deemed unlawful and subject to the penalties under this section.
	10. The occurrence of any of the following shall be reported to the
256	Division:

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- pet store. Within fifteen (15) days following the death of the dog or cat, the pet store shall provide the Division with records reflecting the date and cause death of the dog or cat.
- b. A dog testing positing positive for parvovirus. Any pet store that becomes aware of a dog testing positive for parvovirus either in the store setting or within seven (7) days following purchase, shall notify the Division within forty-eight (48) hours of notification of the test result. If the dog had contact with other dogs in the store within the fourteen (14) days leading up to the positive parvovirus test result, the pet store shall contact the purchasers of any other dogs that may be exposed.
- 11. A grandfathered pet store shall lose their grandfathered status if any of the following occur:
 - a. The sale, transfer, or assignment of the grandfathered pet store.
 - b. An owner of a grandfathered pet store allows any of their federal, state, and/or local occupational business licenses, or other requirement/s related to the operation of their business, to lapse, making them legally ineligible to operate their business, or voluntarily abandons their respective retail sale business model, for a period of more than thirty (30) days.
 - c. An owner of a grandfathered pet store who has any final determination or adjudication of one or more violations of any

federal or state administrative rule, regulation, or statute administered or enforced by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, or any other county or state agency with jurisdiction, whether administrative, civil, or criminal, including, but not limited to, any consent decree, final agency order, court order, verdict, plea of guilty or plea of nolo contendere.

- d. A grandfathered pet store that voluntarily abandons the retail sale for a period of more than thirty (30) days, or ceases retail sale as a result of destruction by fire or other peril.
- (e) Applicability. All provisions of this Ordinance shall be applicable throughout the incorporated and unincorporated areas of Orange County.
- (f) Enforcement. Provisions of this section may be enforced by any person having the authority to enforce county ordinances. Any pet store found to be in violation of the provisions of this section may be subject to any applicable enforcement mechanism available to Orange County, including but not limited to prosecution in the same manner as a misdemeanor as provided in section 125.69, Florida Statutes. It shall be a violation of this section to fail to comply with any of the requirements or restrictions contained herein.
- (g) *Penalties*. Each dog or cat sold or offered for sale cat made in violation of this section shall constitute a separate violation. Each day of a continuing violation shall constitute a separate and distinct violation.

infraction punishable by a maximum civil penalty not to exceed \$500.00. A violation of this section shall be classified as a Category II 306 offense as described in this Article. The amount of any penalties shall be established in the Animal Services Resolution. 308 b. A grandfathered pet store that commits a third offense, as described in this Article, shall lose their grandfathered status. 310 c. Nothing contained herein shall prevent the County from taking such other lawful action in law and equity as may be necessary to remedy 312 any violation of, or refusal to comply with, any part of this Ordinance, 314 including, but not limited to, pursuit of injunctive and/or declaratory relief and/or enjoinment, or other equitable relief in a court of 316 competent jurisdiction, or initiating an action to recover any and all damages that may result from a violation of, or refusal to comply with, any part of this Ordinance. 318 d. Imposition of a penalty for a violation does not excuse the violation nor 320 does it imply permission for the violation to continue. All pet stores found to be in violation will be required to correct or remedy such 322 violation immediately. 324 Section 2. Effective Date. This ordinance shall take effect upon its passage and as provided by law. ADOPTED this Day of 2021. 326

a. Consistent with Florida Law, any violation of this Ordinance is a civil

328		ORANGE COUNTY, FLORIDA By: Board of County Commissioners
330		By: Jerry L. Demings
332		Orange County Mayor
334		DATE:
336	ATTEST: Phil Diamond, CPA, County Compassion As Clerk of the Board of County Commission	
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340	By: Deputy Clerk	
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