



Melissa Velez-Morales

From: Masser, Michelle
Sent: Wednesday, September 07, 2016 10:58 AM
To: Harris, Laura
Cc: Melissa Velez-Morales; Mount Olive Township Council; Greenbaum, Rob
Subject: FW: Sale of Dogs & Cats...
Attachments: 16-189 Puppy Mills.docx

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Subject: Sale of Dogs & Cats...

Please see the attached resolution adopted by the Mayor and Board of Aldermen of Town of Boonton banning the sale of dogs and cats from large-scale commercial breeding facilities. We feel strongly about this resolution and urge all Morris County communities to do the same.

Have a nice day!
Cynthia A. Oravits, RMC
Town Clerk
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♣ Think Green...Before printing this e-mail ask yourself if it is necessary?

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TOWN OF BOONTON

100 WASHINGTON STREET
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RESOLUTION 16-189

RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND BOARD OF ALDERMEN OF THE TOWN OF BOONTON JOINING THE MORRIS COUNTY BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS BANNING THE SALE OF DOGS AND CATS FROM LARGE-SCALE COMMERCIAL BREEDING FACILITIES

WHEREAS, a significant number of puppies and kittens sold at pet shops come from large-scale, commercial breeding facilities where the health and welfare of the animals are not adequately provided for ("puppy mills" and "kitten mills", respectively); and

WHEREAS, according to the Humane Society of the United States, it is estimated that 10,000 puppy mills produce more than 2,400,000 puppies a year in the United States and that most pet shop dogs and cats come from puppy mills and kitten mills; and

WHEREAS, the documented abuses endemic to puppy and kitten mills include overbreeding; inbreeding; minimal to non-existent veterinary care; lack of adequate and nutritious food, water and shelter; lack of socialization; lack of adequate space, and lack of adequate exercise; and

WHEREAS, the inhumane conditions in puppy and kitten mill facilities lead to health and behavioral issues in the animals bred in those facilities, which many consumers are unaware of when purchasing animals from pet shops due to both a lack of education on the issue and misleading tactics of pet shops in some cases; and

WHEREAS, these health and behavioral issues which may not present themselves until sometime after the purchase of the animals can impose exorbitant financial and emotional costs on consumers; and

WHEREAS, current federal and state regulations do not adequately address the sale of the puppy and kitten mill dogs and cats in pet shops; and

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Department of Health, in its 2014 Animal Intake and Disposition Survey, found that due in large part to pet overpopulation, more than 20,000 dogs and cats are euthanized in New Jersey animal shelters annually, and restricting the retail sale of puppies and kittens to only those sources from animal shelter and rescue organizations will likely reduce pet overpopulation and thus the burden on such agencies and financial costs on local taxpayers; and

WHEREAS, across the country, thousands of independent pet shops as well as large chains operate profitably with a business model focused on the sale of pet services and supplies and not on the sale of dogs and cats, and many of these shops collaborate with local animal shelters and rescue organizations to offer space and support for showcasing adoptable homeless pets on their premises; and

WHEREAS, this resolution will not affect a consumer's ability to obtain a dog or cat of his or her choice directly from a breed-specific rescue organization or a shelter, or from a hobby breeder where the consumer can see directly the conditions in which the dogs or cats are bred, or can confer directly with the hobby breeder concerning those conditions; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Board of Aldermen believes it is in the best interests of the Town of Boonton and County of Morris to support the adoption of reasonable regulations to reduce costs to the town and county and its

residents, protect the citizens of the Town of Boonton who may purchase cats or dogs from a pet shop or other business establishment, help prevent inhumane breeding conditions, promote community awareness of animal welfare, and foster a more humane environment in the Town of Boonton.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the Town of Boonton as follows:

1. The Board urges and encourages all thirty-nine (39) municipalities in the County of Morris to take immediate steps to ban the sale of dogs and cats that come from large scale commercial breeding facilities ("puppy mills" and "kitten mills").
2. The Board hereby joins with other New Jersey counties and municipalities in calling on elected officials serving New Jersey at all levels of government to work in concert to regulate sales of dogs and cats that come from large scale commercial breeding facilities ("puppy mills" and "kitten mills").
3. The Clerk of the Town of Boonton shall forward a certified copy of this Resolution to the thirty-nine (39) municipal clerks in the County of Morris.
4. This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

I, Cynthia A. Oravits, Municipal Clerk of the Town of Boonton, hereby certifies the foregoing Resolution to be a true and correct copy adopted by the Mayor and Board of Aldermen at a regular meeting of said governing body held on September 6, 2016.

Cynthia A. Oravits, RMC, Town Clerk