

**REVENUE: No revenue impact**

**FISCAL: Minimal fiscal impact, no statement issued**

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<b>Action:</b>	Do Pass as Amended and Be Printed Engrossed
<b>Vote:</b>	8 - 2 - 0
<b>Yeas:</b>	Barton, Cowan, Krieger, Matthews, Riley, Tomei, Wingard, Holvey
<b>Nays:</b>	Gilliam, Weidner
<b>Exc.:</b>	0
<b>Prepared By:</b>	Victoria Cox, Administrator
<b>Meeting Dates:</b>	2/23, 3/30, 4/6

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**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:** Prohibits possessing more than 50 sexually intact dogs aged two years or older for the primary purpose of reproduction. Specifies records requirements for persons possessing more than 50 sexually intact dogs age eight months or older. Makes violation a Class B misdemeanor subject to suspended sentence when violation is remedied by spaying or neutering. Establishes standards of care for possessing 10 or more sexually intact dogs aged four months or older. Requires anyone possessing 75 or more dogs to have one or more individuals on site for at least eight hours per day to provide dog care. Creates exceptions for animal control agencies, shelters, veterinary facilities, boarding kennels and transportation providers. Establishes conditions under which a pet dealer must provide a refund for a dog that a veterinarian determines suffers from disease or congenital disorder. Requires retail pet stores to provide purchasers with specified information regarding the medical and breeding history of dogs sold.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- Large scale commercial dog breeding operations
- Best practices of conscientious breeders
- Breed specific standards of care
- Enforcement hurdles faced by animal control agencies
- Necessary disclosures to dog purchasers
- Appropriate conditions for refund

**EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:** Raises cap on sexually intact dogs from 25 to 50 and age from four months to two years. Specifies possession as opposed to ownership. Establishes staffing requirements for possessing 75 or more dogs. Creates exceptions for temporary boarding and transportation.

**BACKGROUND:** Large scale commercial dog breeding operations have raised concerns regarding humane conditions at some facilities and the health of puppies they produce. Animal control agencies report difficulty in enforcing overly vague minimum care standards. HB 2470-A establishes clear limits to the number of breeding dogs a person may possess and in what conditions they must be maintained. The measure also requires pet dealers and retail pet stores to provide information to consumers regarding dogs purchased and specifies conditions under which they are entitled to refunds.

4/8/2009 11:43:00 AM

*This summary has not been adopted or officially endorsed by action of the committee.*