

ORDINANCE NO. 19-O-11

**ENACTING REGULATIONS GOVERNING
THE SALE OF DOGS AND CATS IN PET SHOPS**

WHEREAS, a significant number of puppies and kittens sold at pet shops come from large-scale, commercial breeding facilities which do not adequately care for the health and welfare of the animals;

WHEREAS, the documented abuses endemic to these breeding facilities include over-breeding, 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;

WHEREAS, these inhumane conditions and abuses lead to health and behavioral issues in the animals bred in those facilities, and many consumers are unaware of these concerns when purchasing animals from pet shops, and the health and behavioral issues resulting from their breeding conditions may not present themselves until sometime after the purchase of the animals and can impose exorbitant financial and emotional costs on consumers;

WHEREAS, restricting the retail sale of puppies and kittens at pet shops to only those that are sourced from shelters or rescue organizations is likely to decrease the demand for puppies and kittens bred in these inhumane and abusive conditions and is likely to further the public interest by increasing demand for animals from animal shelters and rescue organizations, which may otherwise be euthanized or present costs and burdens on the community;

WHEREAS, the City Council believes it is in the best interests of this City to adopt reasonable regulations to reduce costs to the City and its residents, protect the citizens of the City 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 City;

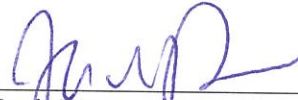
NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Council for the City of Anniston, Alabama as follows:

Section 1. The Council hereby enacts and codifies in Chapter 4, Article I, Section 4.26 of "The Code of the City of Anniston, 1981" to state in its entirety as follows:

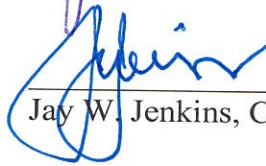
Section 4.26 – Sale of Animals in Pet Shops

- (a) *Definitions.* For purposes of this section, the following terms shall have the meaning ascribed herein:
- (1) *Animal care facility* means an animal control center or animal shelter, maintained by or under contract with any state, county, or municipality, whose mission and practice is, in whole, or significant part, the rescue and placement of animals in permanent homes or rescue organizations.

CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF
ANNISTON, ALABAMA



Jack Draper, Mayor



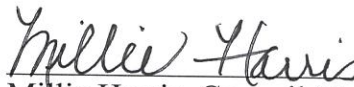
Jay W. Jenkins, Council Member

abstain

David E. Reddick, Council Member

abstain

Ben Little, Council Member



Milie Harris, Council Member

ATTEST:



Skyler Bass, City Clerk