

31ST BOARD OF REPRESENTATIVES CITY OF STAMFORD

President
JEFF CURTIS

Clerk of the Board
MEGAN COTTRELL

Majority Leader
NINA SHERWOOD

Minority Leader
MARY L. FEDELI

RESOLUTION NO. 4366

RESOLUTION URGING THE CONNECTICUT GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO ADOPT HOUSE BILL NO. 6832, AN ACT AUTHORIZING MUNICIPALITIES TO PROHIBIT THE SALE OF DOGS, CATS, AND RABBITS IN PET SHOPS.

WHEREAS, in October 2019, the 30th Board of Representatives adopted a resolution urging the Connecticut General Assembly to amend state statutes to allow municipalities to prohibit the sale of dogs, cats, and rabbits in retail pet stores; and

WHEREAS, in response to municipal advocacy and recognizing the public benefit, the Connecticut General Assembly introduced House Bill No. 6832 during the January 2025 session to explicitly authorize municipalities to prohibit the sale of dogs, cats, and rabbits in pet shops; and

WHEREAS, passage of House Bill No. 6832 would empower municipalities to address public health concerns, consumer protection issues, animal cruelty, and pet overpopulation associated with puppy mills, kitten mills, and irresponsible commercial breeding operations; and

WHEREAS, the sale of puppies and kittens from commercial breeding operations often involves inhumane conditions, including over-breeding, inadequate veterinary care, poor sanitation, and lack of proper nutrition and socialization; and

WHEREAS, animals from commercial breeding facilities frequently suffer from significant health and behavioral problems, placing emotional and financial burdens on unsuspecting consumers; and

WHEREAS, antibiotic-resistant infections linked to pet store puppies pose serious public health risks, affecting both store employees and customers; and

WHEREAS, prohibiting the retail sale of pets in stores promotes adoption from animal shelters and rescue organizations, reducing pet overpopulation and alleviating associated costs borne by municipalities; and

WHEREAS, protecting consumers from misleading and insufficient information regarding the source and health of pets sold in retail pet shops enhances the community's overall welfare; and

WHEREAS, on February 25, 2025, the Stamford Board of Representatives Legislative and Rules Committee unanimously approved LR31.072, *Ordinance Regulating the Sale of Dogs and Cats in Pet Stores*, for a public hearing; and

WHEREAS, on March 3, 2025, the Stamford Board of Representatives unanimously approved LR31.072 for a public hearing; and

WHEREAS, on March 25, 2025, the Legislative and Rules Committee conducted a public hearing on LR31.072; and

WHEREAS, upon the enactment of House Bill No. 6832, *An Act Authorizing Municipalities to Prohibit the Sale of Dogs, Cats, and Rabbits in Pet Shops*, the Stamford Board of Representatives will be prepared to immediately adopt LR31.072.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the 31st Board of Representatives of the City of Stamford strongly urges the Connecticut General Assembly to adopt House Bill No. 6832, thereby authorizing municipalities throughout Connecticut, including Stamford, to prohibit the sale of dogs, cats, and rabbits in pet shops, and promote the humane treatment of animals, protect consumers, and reduce financial burdens on local communities.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to Stamford's state legislative delegation, the leadership of the Connecticut General Assembly, and the Governor of the State of Connecticut.

This resolution was approved on the Consent Agenda at the regular monthly meeting of the 31st Board of Representatives held on April 7, 2025



Jeff Curtis, President
31st Board of Representatives



Megan Cottrell, Clerk
31st Board of Representatives

cc: Mayor Caroline Simmons
Thomas Cassone, Esq., Law Department
Lyda Ruijter, Town & City Clerk
Elda Sinani, Director of OPM
Benjamin Barnes, Director of Administration
Matthew Quiñones, Director of Operations
Bridget Fox, Chief of Staff
Leah Kagen, Director of Economic Development
Lou DeRubeis, Director of Public Safety, Health & Welfare
Anita Carpenter, Grants Officer
Frank Petise, Transportation Bureau Chief