BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT
BILL NO. 2009-44
(Requires that dogs and cats over the age of four months be spayed or neutered, except under specified circumstances, and requires the microchipping of animals before they can be recovered from impound or adopted)

This business impact statement was prepared pursuant to NRS 237.090 to address the impact of a proposed ordinance, Bill No. 2009-44, that will require that dogs and cats over the age of four months be spayed or neutered, except under specified circumstances, and require the microchipping of animals before they can be recovered from impound or adopted.

1. The following constitutes a description of the manner in which comment was solicited from affected businesses, a summary of their responses and an explanation of the manner in which other interested persons may obtain a copy of the summary.

A copy of an earlier version of the proposed ordinance and an invitation to respond were provided to approximately 126 businesses licensed as pet shops within the City. (The earlier version of the ordinance proposal did not contain the microchipping provisions now included.) Response was invited to the provisions of the proposed ordinance intended to apply to pet shops–namely, the requirement to provide the City, on a quarterly basis, a list of persons who purchase dogs and cats from the shop. (The remaining provisions of the proposed ordinance affect persons and organizations other than businesses, and the concerns of all will be able to be addressed during the ordinance adoption process. The business impact statement process undertaken here, one mandated by law, relates to business impact only.)

Comments were received from representatives of a small number of businesses, addressing various aspects of the proposed ordinance. Comments that were focused on the impact to businesses only included the following:

–Requiring pet shops to provide a quarterly list of those purchasing dogs or cats is cumbersome, invades the privacy of those purchasers, and reveals trade secret information.

–The proposed ordinance will subject businesses to prosecution and will increases costs associated with spaying and neutering of animals before they can be sold.

–The proposed ordinance unfairly targets businesses and doesn't address sales and other transactions by individuals.

2. The estimated economic effect of the proposed rule on businesses, including, without limitation, both adverse and beneficial effects, and both direct and indirect effects:

Adverse effects:

–Requiring pet shops to provide a quarterly list of those purchasing dogs or cats is cumbersome, invades the privacy of those purchasers, and reveals trade secret information. The potential effect on purchasers may negatively impact businesses.

–The proposed ordinance will subject businesses to prosecution and will increases costs associated with spaying and neutering of animals before they can be sold.

Beneficial effects:

–Increased ability to achieve spaying and neutering of animals and reduce the pet population.

Direct effects:

–Requiring pet shops to provide a quarterly list of those purchasing dogs or cats is cumbersome, invades the privacy of those purchasers, and reveals trade secret information.
–The proposed ordinance will subject businesses to prosecution and will increases costs associated with spaying and neutering of animals before they can be sold.

Indirect effects:

The potential effect on purchasers of the reporting requirement may negatively impact businesses.

3. The following constitutes a description of the methods the local government considered to reduce the impact of the proposed rule on businesses and a statement regarding whether any, and if so which, of these methods were used:

Language was added to clarify the original intent of the proposed ordinance–that pet shops and other businesses and organizations caring for or dealing in animals are not subject to prosecution for having care or control of animals that have not been spayed or neutered as required.

4. The estimate of the annual cost to the local government for enforcement of the proposed rule is:

Minimal additional cost

5. If the proposed rule provides for a new fee or increases an existing fee, the total annual amount expected to be collected is:

No fee to be imposed on businesses

6. If the proposed rule provides for a new fee or increases an existing fee, the money generated by the new fee or increase in existing fee will be used by the local government to:

No fee to be imposed on businesses

7. If the proposed rule includes provisions that duplicate or are more stringent than federal, state or local standards regulating the same activity, the following explains why such duplicative or more stringent provisions are necessary:

N/A

Date: October 7, 2009