

August 23, 2010

Mayor Tom Martin
City of Lubbock
PO Box 2000
Lubbock, TX 79457

Re: OPPOSITION to Animal Ordinance Proposals
For Mandatory Spay/Neuter and Microchips, Ban on Animal Sales,
Intact Pet Permits, Litter/Breeder Permits, Sellers Permits, Puppy/Kitten Lemon Law.

Dear Mayor Martin and Council,

Our membership in Lubbock has informed us of the anti-pet legislative proposals to be presented to you Thursday which will have unintended consequences. We ask that you reject these suggestions and adopt positive proactive programs and services to address your animal problems which always lie in low income areas. Staff's presentation states it regulates "responsible pet owners" who aren't the problem. The focus should be on pet retention, not pet elimination!

This is a radical national "animal rights" legislative agenda to end all use, breeding and ownership of animals for any reason, including pet ownership. Their agenda goes far beyond our pet issues. These proposals are not written to solve your local animal problems. We've enclosed a flyer on the failure of this legislation.

Texas Humane Legislation Network (THLN) is a coalition of all the "animal rights" groups in Texas and is the driving force behind this agenda to legislate pet ownership out of existence. We hope you'll connect the dots below regarding Texas cities where we've fought this same legislative battle. It proves our point.

San Antonio: Two THLN board members (at that time) - Attorney Joel Hailey and Jeff Hale, San Antonio Animal Control Director.

Dallas: Attorney Robert (Skip) Trimble, THLN board member.

Fort Worth: Attorney Randy Turner, former THLN president and board member.

El Paso: Attorney Tom Linney, an employee of Animal Legal Defense Fund (an "animal rights" organization); served as legislative intern for THLN drafting legislation.

Our organization believes deeply in the human/animal bond and has drawn a line in the sand. We hope you're on the side of animal "welfare," not animal "rights."

We've administered a statewide Pet Education, Assistance & Rescue Program for 20 years and offer our animal expertise at no cost. Our statewide membership is composed of "John Q" pet owners with all species of pets, rescuers, veterinarians, veterinary technicians, working and hunting dog breed clubs, clubs and individuals from all national registries, cat and dog exhibitors, search & rescue dog owners, therapy and guide dog owners, show dog handlers, pet sitters, dog trainers, pet groomers, boarding kennels and show/hobby breeders.

Sincerely,

Mary Beth Duerler
Executive Director