



FILE COPY

LOS ANGELES COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE  
SACRAMENTO LEGISLATIVE OFFICE

STEVE COOLEY • District Attorney  
CURT LIVESAY • Chief Deputy District Attorney

JAMES R. PROVENZA • Special Assistant

September 18, 2007

The Honorable Arnold Schwarzenegger  
Governor of California  
State Capitol  
Sacramento, California 95814

ASSEMBLY BILL 1347 (Caballero)  
OPPOSE

Dear Governor Schwarzenegger:

I am writing to request that you return Assembly Bill 1347 to the Legislature without your signature.

We have serious concerns regarding AB 1347 as a result of the September 4, 2007 amendments.

AB 1347 attempts to provide protection for animals in pet stores. However, AB 1347 overlaps current law, the Lockyer-Polanco-Farr Pet Protection Act (Health and Safety Code Section 122125 et seq.) as well as Penal Code Sections 597 and 597L. Current law provides for greater penalties, stricter enforcement, and greater protection of animals than AB 1347. AB 1347 adds little of value in any of these areas. However, the September 4 amendments contain language which could be read to discourage animal control officers from citing pet stores for violations of the Lockyer-Polanco-Farr Act or the criminal provisions involving the mistreatment of animals contained in the Penal Code.

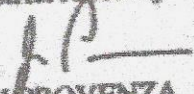
Although the bill contains language previously requested by us to protect the other laws, the effect of the September 4 amendments could be to negate the effectiveness of the language by creating confusion among enforcement agencies as to which law they should utilize for enforcement. We see no reason to create this confusion among enforcement officers. Moreover, we should encourage, not discourage, strict punishment of those who abuse animals.

The net effect of AB 1347 could be to reduce protection of animals and consumers in pet stores. We feel it would be best if the author were to address the topic again next year. We would be happy to work with her if she were to do so.

We respectfully urge you to return Assembly Bill 1347 to the Legislature without your signature.

Very truly yours,

STEVE COOLEY  
District Attorney

By   
JIM PROVENZA  
Special Assistant District Attorney  
JRP:jk  
C: Assembly Member Caballero

1100 K Street, Suite 404  
Sacramento, CA 95814  
(916) 442-0888  
Fax: (916) 444-8729