



# Broward County

## Legislation Text

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File #: 20-1946, Version: 1

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### **Broward County Commission Regular Meeting**

**Director's Name:** Andrew J. Meyers

**Department:** County Attorney

### **Information**

#### **Requested Action**

**MOTION TO ENACT** Ordinance, the title of which is as follows:

AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF BROWARD COUNTY, FLORIDA, PERTAINING TO DOGS AND CATS; AMENDING SECTION 4-2 OF THE BROWARD COUNTY CODE OF ORDINANCES ("CODE"), PROVIDING FOR DEFINITIONS; AMENDING SECTION 4-6.5, ESTABLISHING REQUIREMENTS FOR BREEDER PERMITS; AMENDING SECTION 4-11, PROVIDING FOR REGISTRATION OF DOGS AND CATS; AMENDING SECTION 4-14, REQUIRING REPORTING OF DOG, CAT, OR FERRET BITES; AMENDING SECTION 4-14.5, RELATING TO DOG OR CAT BITES WITH INJURIES; AND PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY, INCLUSION IN THE CODE, AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

(Sponsored by the Board of County Commissioners)

#### **Why Action is Necessary**

A Resolution directing the County Administrator to publish notice of public hearing to consider enactment of the Ordinance was adopted by the Board of County Commissioners at its meeting of October 20, 2020.

#### **What Action Accomplishes**

Allows the Board's consideration of an Ordinance updating various sections of Chapter 4.

#### **Is this Action Goal Related**

No

#### **Previous Action Taken**

#### **Summary Explanation/Background**

The proposed Ordinance amends various sections of Chapter 4 of the Code to update and clarify existing definitions and processes relating to aggressive dogs; breeder permits; and bites from dogs, cats, and ferrets. The proposed amendments were approved by the Animal Care Advisory Committee at its meeting of January 17, 2020.

Subsequent to the action of the Animal Care Advisory Committee, the proposed Ordinance was amended to codify existing practices of the Animal Care and Adoption Division that: (i) fines related

to dog or cat bites with injuries are reduced by three hundred dollars (\$300), if the animal owner pays the victim's medical expenses within fifteen (15) calendar days after the bite and otherwise complies with the requirements of Chapter 4, and (ii) dog or cat owners who fail to obtain a rabies registration tag for their dog or cat within the required time frame, and who have not been issued a citation for such failure, are not to be issued a citation for such failure when a new rabies registration tag is obtained.

The Environmental Protection and Growth Management Department and its Animal Care and Adoption Division recommend approval of the proposed Ordinance.

**Source of Additional Information**

Maite Azcoitia, Deputy County Attorney, 954-357-7600

**Fiscal Impact**

**Fiscal Impact/Cost Summary**

Per the Office of Management and Budget, the estimated impact on the budget does not exceed the threshold required for a Fiscal Impact Statement.