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**ORDINANCE**

[To Adopt City of Prattville Code of Ordinances, Chapter 10, Article V, Division 1, Sec. 109 - Sale of Dogs and Cats in Pets Shops.]

{Sponsored By: Councilor Chambers}

**WHEREAS**, a significant number of puppies and kittens sold at pet shops within the City of Prattville come from large-scale, commercial breeding facilities, which do not adequately care for the health and welfare of the animals; and

**WHEREAS**, the documented abuses prevalent in these breeding facilities include over-breeding, inbreeding, minimal to non-existent veterinary care, lack of adequate and nutritious food, water and shelter, lack of socialization, lack of adequate space and lack of adequate exercise; and

**WHEREAS**, these inhumane conditions and abuses lead to health and behavioral issues in the animals bred in those facilities, and many consumers are unaware of these concerns when purchasing animals from pet shops. The health and behavioral issues resulting from their breeding conditions may not present themselves until sometime after the purchase of the animals and can impose exorbitant financial and emotional costs on consumers; and

**WHEREAS**, restricting the retail sale of puppies and kittens at pet shops to only those that are sourced from shelters or rescue organizations is likely to decrease the demand for puppies and kittens bred in these inhumane and abusive conditions and is likely to further the public interest by increasing demand for animals from animal shelters and rescue organizations, which may otherwise be euthanized or present costs and burdens on the community; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Council believes it is in the best interests of this City to adopt reasonable regulations to protect the citizens of the City who may purchase dogs or cats from a pet shop or other business establishment, help prevent inhumane breeding conditions, promote community awareness of animal welfare and foster a more humane environment in the City.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED** by the Council for the City of Prattville that Chapter 10, Article V, Division 1, Section 109 - Sale of Dogs and Cats in Pets Shops is adopted as follows:

**Section 109 - Sale of Dogs and Cats in Pet Shops**



1 AUTHENTICATED THIS DAY 17<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF JANUARY, 2023.

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By: Paula G. Barlow  
City Clerk

APPROVED:

By: Bill Gillespie, Jr.  
Mayor

DRAFT