



City of Detroit
Detroit City Council
Council Member Angela Whitfield Calloway
District 2

MEMORANDUM

TO: David Whitaker, Director, Legislative Policy Division

THROUGH: Mary Sheffield, Council President

FROM: Angela Whitfield Calloway, Council Member *AWC*

DATE: June 26, 2024

RE: Ordinance amending Chapter 6, Article VII, of the Detroit City Code, Pet Shops

Council Member Angela Whitfield Calloway has been working with representatives from the Humane Society to develop an ordinance that prohibits the sale of puppies and kittens in Detroit pet shops.

Michigan pet shops selling puppies and kittens often purchase the animals from puppy mills with negative track records regarding ensuring the health and welfare of the animals they breed. Known as puppy mills, these large, commercial breeders are not beholden to any laws or regulations that would require that the animals be treated humanely. This in turn has led to a pipeline of animals who are suffering and sick when purchased by pet shops which not only impacts the health of other animals, but some diseases can be transmitted to humans as well. Additionally, pet shops may engage in sales tactics and predatory lending practices that mislead consumers.

As there are currently no pet shops selling dogs and cats in Detroit, now is the perfect time to be proactive in establishing this ordinance that would protect both animals and consumers from the consequences of inhumane practices in puppy mills and pet shops.



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This ordinance would include Detroit among ten other cities in the state that have banned the sale of puppies and kittens in pet shops.

Council Member Calloway requests that the Legislative Policy Division draft an ordinance that would amend Chapter 6, Article VII, of the Detroit City Code, *Pet Shops*, by adding a new section prohibiting the sale or offer of dogs or cats by pet shops.

Please contact our office with questions or concerns – Breanna Williams, Breanna.Williams@detroitmi.gov, and Peter Rhoades, Peter.Rhoades@detroitmi.gov

CC: Malik Washington, City Council Liaison