June 23, 2017

The Honorable Jerry Hill, Chairman
California State Senate
Business, Professions, and Economic Development Committee
State Capitol, Room 2053
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Support for AB 485 (O’Donnell): Dogs and Cats: Adoption and Retail Sales

Dear Senator Hill:

On behalf of the City of Long Beach, I write to support Assembly Bill 485 (O’Donnell). The City of Long Beach has been in support of this legislation since the bill was in the State Assembly. The City is aware amendments have been made that remove the criminal liability component of the legislation, but AB 485 continues to impose a civil fine of $500 for each violation, and Long Beach remains supportive of the bill.

The City of Long Beach has adopted a similar practice in our city. By proposing to prohibit pet store owners from selling a live dog, cat, or rabbit in a pet store unless the animal is obtained from a public animal control agency, non-profit shelter, or rescue group, statewide AB 485 prioritizes and encourages animal adoption.

Long Beach proudly invests significant effort into placing animals in loving, humane environments and promoting responsible pet ownership to reduce animal overpopulation. Since the adoption of our local ordinance, Long Beach has begun working with many local pet stores and rescue groups to adopt out animals in need. It is with great pride that Long Beach celebrates the human-animal bond.

Given these reasons, the City of Long Beach is proud to support AB 485 (O’Donnell).

Sincerely,

Mayor Robert Garcia
City of Long Beach

cc: The Honorable Speaker Anthony Rendon, State Assembly
The Honorable Patrick O’Donnell, State Assembly, 70th District
The Honorable Steven Bradford, State Senate, 35th District
The Honorable Ricardo Lara, State Senate, 33rd District
The Honorable Janet Nguyen, State Senate, 34th District
The Honorable Mike Gipson, State Assembly, 64th District
California State Senate, Committee on Business, Professions, and Economic Development