



Clumber Spaniel Club of America
Carolyn Morrison
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The Honorable Mark Leno
Chair, Assembly Appropriations Committee
State Capitol, Room 2114
Sacramento, California 95814
ATTN: Chuck Nicol, Committee Consultant

RE: Oppose AB 1634 as Amended in Business and Professions Committee on April 24

Dear Chairman Leno:

The Clumber Spaniel Club of America is writing today to ask you to oppose Assembly Bill 1634 when it comes before your committee. Please ensure that our opposition is reflected in the committee analysis. AB 1634 would require mandatory spaying/neutering of dogs and cats over four months of age unless the owner qualifies for and purchases an intact animal permit.

We represent a membership of over 500 with many members residing in California. Our club has held its National Specialty show in California on a number of occasions, most recently in San Marcos in 2004. We would find it difficult to consider holding a future show in your state if AB 1634 passes. We believe that AB 1634 will be detrimental to the sport of purebred dogs, as well as to all dog owners in California.

The Clumber Spaniel Club of America's Code of Ethics encourages responsible breeding practices and responsible dog ownership. We have a dedicated Rescue and Placement Committee which finds good homes for Clumbers whose owners are no longer able to care for them.

Mandatory spay/neuter is an ineffective solution to animal control problems because it fails to address the heart of the issue—irresponsible ownership. These laws are extremely difficult to enforce and can be evaded by irresponsible animal owners by not licensing their pets. It will hurt responsible breeders who raise healthy, well cared-for dogs and work to ensure that these puppies are placed with responsible owners.

Responsible owners who are already complying with local animal control laws will be unfairly punished by AB 1634, while irresponsible owners will continue to make problems for the community and local shelters. Concentrating animal control efforts on owners whose behavior demonstrates that they are a problem for the community would be a much better use of taxpayer funds.

I respectfully ask that you support responsible owners and breeders by opposing AB 1634.

Sincerely,

Carolyn Morrison, Legislative Liaison
Clumber Spaniel Club of America