



**PUBLIC REQUEST TO ADDRESS
THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA**

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

HILDA L. SOLIS
HOLLY J. MITCHELL
LINDSEY P. HORVATH
JANICE HAHN
KATHRYN BARGER

Correspondence Received

| The following individuals submitted comments on agenda item: | | | | |
|--|-----------|----------|----------------|--|
| Agenda # | Relate To | Position | Name | Comments |
| 15. | | Favor | Amanda Ker | |
| | | | ari g | <p>I would like to speak in support of Item #15 I want to thank Supervisor Hilda Solis for authoring this motion. I request the Board to support this motion that will create an opportunity for the community to provide thoughtful solutions and respond to potential ideas as to what a fair solution to this ongoing issue of pets and housing. Too many pet owners for too many years have had to choose between putting a roof over their heads they can afford or keeping their pet. Pet ownership surrender has added to the volume of animal lives lost and has added to the crisis in County animal shelters. For many folks Pets are Family and pet ownership has grown exponentially over the past few years due to the pandemic. There were pandemic era protections for folks but that does not help everyone. This motion is a step in the right direction to formally explore solutions, and I value the County's, namely Supervisor Solis', bravery in wanting to address this matter. Thank you.</p> |
| | | | Barbara Kappos | <p>For many individuals who are homeless, especially survivors of domestic violence their pets are a part of their family and their support system. Providing them with a home, stability and well-being must allow them to include their family members, which includes their pets. It is pertinent that these individuals and families are heard as we navigate to find solutions to an issue that has led to many families surrendering their pets, and adding to the number of animal lives lost.</p> |



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| Agenda # | Relate To | Position | Name | Comments |
| 15. | | Favor | Cassidy Bennett | <p>I want to thank Supervisor Hilda Solis for authoring this motion. I request the Board to support this motion that will create an opportunity for community to provide thoughtful solutions and respond to potential ideas as to what a fair solution to this ongoing issue of pets and housing.</p> <p>Too many pet owners for too many years have had to choose between putting a roof over their heads they can afford or keeping their pet. Whenever I have had to move in LA, knowing that I would need to find a landlord willing to accept my dog has added both stress and time to my housing search.</p> <p>I am grateful that I have been able to find this housing because I had flexibility in how long I could extend my search, but had it been more urgent, I might have had to make an incredibly difficult decision. Pet ownership surrender has added to volume of animal lives lost and has added to the crisis in County animal shelters.</p> <p>For many folks Pets are Family and pet ownership has grown exponentially over the past few years due to the pandemic. There were pandemic era protections for folks but that does not help everyone.</p> <p>This motion is a step in the right direction to formally explore solutions, and I value the County's, namely Supervisor Solis', bravery in wanting to address this matter.</p> |
| | | | Christina Boyar | <p>My name is Christina Boyar, I'm a resident of district 3 and an attorney at Public Counsel. Thank you to Supervisor Hilda Solis for authoring this motion. I request the Board to support this motion that will create an opportunity for community to provide thoughtful solutions and respond to potential ideas as to what a fair solution to this ongoing issue of pets and housing. Too many pet owners for too many years have had to choose between putting a roof over their heads they can afford or keeping their pet. Pet ownership surrender has added to volume of animal lives lost and has added to the crisis in County animal shelters. For many folks Pets are Family and pet ownership has grown exponentially over the past few years due to the pandemic. There were pandemic era protections for folks but that does not help everyone. This motion is a step in the right direction to formally explore solutions, and I value the County's, namely Supervisor Solis', bravery in wanting to address this matter. As a cat owner myself, I couldn't imagine having to pick between an apartment I can afford and my dear furry friend. Tenants deserve safe, affordable housing where they can thrive with their pets.</p> |



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| 15. | | Favor | Christina Ku | Animals ARE family members. Housing must recognize the wellbeing and welfare of society which absolutely include being together with human and animal family members. Housing laws must evolve to end discrimination of animal family members. This is an effective way to help end the unnecessary slaughter of animals in shelters and allow more people to address the problems with not able to keep animals at home due to discrimination and ignorance. Thank you for considering this humane and forward thinking concept to help our society! |
| | | | Christine Rangel | <p>Dear Honorable Members of the County Board:</p> <p>I am writing in support of Item #15.</p> <p>I wish to thank Supervisor Hilda Solis for authoring this motion.</p> <p>I request the Board to support this motion. Pets are family for many people. Pet ownership has grown exponentially over the past few years due to the pandemic. Too often we have Angelenos having to choose between housing themselves and including their furry family, or living on the street. That is simply inhumane.</p> <p>Pet ownership surrender has added to the volume of animal lives lost and has added to the crisis in County animal shelters. Pandemic era protections no longer helps everyone.</p> <p>This motion is a step in the right direction to formally explore solutions, and I value the County's bravery, namely Supervisor Solis', in wanting to address this matter. Let's keep our pets in housing and help control the pet overpopulation crisis.</p> <p>Thank you. Christine</p> |



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| 15. | | Favor | Cinthia Gonzalez | I want to thank Supervisor Hilda Solis for authoring this motion. For so many Angelenos living in the County this is such a great ordinance to bring forth. I request the Board to support this motion that will create an opportunity for community to provide thoughtful solutions and respond to potential ideas as to what a fair solution to this ongoing issue of pets and housing. Too many pet owners for too many years have had to choose between putting a roof over their heads they can afford or keeping their pet. Pet ownership surrender has added to volume of animal lives lost and has added to the crisis in County animal shelters. As well as this being an issue as to why many houseless individuals will not opt to get support for temporary shelter since there are no pets allowed. These pets have been part of their family and often serve as support animals to so many living in the streets. Please keep families together and save them from evictions for pet ownership. Thank you once again for the support. |



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| The following individuals submitted comments on agenda item: | | | | |
| 15. | | Favor | Diana Cruz | <p>Animal shelters are at capacity. The housing crisis in LA County continues to grow. We need practical solutions to these issues and Item #15 is a step in that direction. An estimated 213,420 households in LA County and an estimated 305,190 pets are expected to be evicted in the next 30-90 days (humananimalsupportservices.org/toolkit/pet-eviction-calculator/). These numbers do not include tenants that are threatened with eviction due to their companion animals or assistance animals.</p> <p>Eviction filings have continued to increase since the emergency period ended. 47,365 evictions were filed last year- that's 5 families evicted every hour. These numbers do not include families that self-evict due landlord harassment and illegal eviction threats that force people to choose between the roof over their heads and their furry family members.</p> <p>I came to work at the organization I am with now, Housing Equity & Advocacy Resource Team (HEART) because I used to be a client. My family struggled finding pro bono representation for our no-fault eviction and finding affordable housing that would allow pets. We spent over \$300 in application fees alone but were ultimately rejected due to no-pet clauses despite the fact that my cat is an emotional support animal. HEART LA provided legal representation for us like it continues to do for families across LA County that are facing housing insecurity due to their companion animals.</p> <p>Unfortunately, my story is a common one. We are seeing an increasing number of unhoused individuals seeking resources for their animals and support finding inclusive housing. No-pet policies, pet fees, pet deposits, breed restrictions, and weight restrictions compound the problem and exist as barriers to entering and maintaining housing. Supervisor Solis and Supervisor Horvath have created an opportunity to finally address the crisis and ensure that our community members have a safe and inclusive place to call home.</p> |



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| 15. | | Favor | Diana Penalzoza | <p>My name is Diana, I'm a pet parent, an apartment dweller in LA county, and a volunteer at one of the city's animal shelters. I would like to speak in support of item 15 and thank Supervisor Solis for authoring this motion.</p> <p>I have a sweet, well behaved 50 pound dog named Sophia. She is a member of my family AND the reason I now pay nearly double in rent after my last place wouldn't allow pets. Finding my current apartment was very difficult and stressful, even with stellar references for both myself and my dog. Outside of luxury rentals, it's become nearly impossible to find pet friendly housing in Los Angeles.</p> <p>At the shelter, I've witnessed first hand the effects pet restrictive policies have on families and their pets. It's heartbreaking seeing so many wonderful dogs and cats surrendered because their owners can't find or afford a place that will allow them.</p> <p>Pet ownership in LA is becoming something that only the wealthy get to experience. This motion is a step in the right direction in reversing that trend and I urge the board to support it.</p> <p>Thank you.</p> |
| | | | edna monroy | <p>My name is Edna Monroy, and I'm with SAJE, and I live in SD2. I would like to speak in support of Item #15 I want to thank Supervisor Hilda Solis for authoring this motion. I request the Board to support this motion that will create an opportunity for community to provide thoughtful solutions and respond to potential ideas as to what a fair solution to this ongoing issue of pets and housing. Too many pet owners for too many years have had to choose between putting a roof over their heads they can afford or keeping their pet. Pet ownership surrender has added to volume of animal lives lost and has added to the crisis in County animal shelters. For many folks Pets are Family and pet ownership has grown exponentially over the past few years due to the pandemic. There were pandemic era protections for folks but that does not help everyone. This motion is a step in the right direction to formally explore solutions, and I value the County's, namely Supervisor Solis', bravery in wanting to address this matter. Please keep LA County tenants and pets housed and protected.</p> |
| | | | Evelyn N Senior | |
| | | | Gabriela Eddy | |



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| 15. | | Favor | Hannah Crocker | |
| | | | Jake Burton | Pets enrich the lives of their caregivers, and ultimately create a stronger public. |
| | | | Jason Quintero | Keeping pet's and families together will greatly decrease the overcrowding in the shelter system as well as keep families and their children happy. |
| | | | Jessica Simpson | |
| | | | Joselyn Camarena | I work at a shelter and I have seen first hand how the issue of ownership surrender as a result of low pet equity in housing has drastically increased shelter populations leading to overcrowding. |
| | | | Kerry Chhay | |
| | | | Kyle R Nelson | My name is Kyle Nelson and I'm with SAJE. I would like to speak in support of Item #15. I want to thank Supervisor Hilda Solis for authoring this motion. I request the Board to support this motion that will create an opportunity for community to provide thoughtful solutions and respond to potential ideas as to what a fair solution to this ongoing issue of pets and housing. Too many pet owners for too many years have had to choose between putting a roof over their heads they can afford or keeping their pet. For many folks pets are Family and pet ownership has grown exponentially over the past few years due to the pandemic. This motion is a step in the right direction to formally explore solutions, and I appreciate the County's initiative in addressing this matter. |
| | | | Leslie Amaya-Yanez | |



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| 15. | | Favor | LISA F JUAREZ | <p>My name is Lisa Juarez, and I am a LA pet owner and Kitten Rescue volunteer.</p> <p>I have done social media postings to help rescue at-risk cats in the County shelters, and have assisted the public as a volunteer in the Cat Room of the City Shelters since 2012.</p> <p>I thank Supervisor Solis for authoring motion 15, and request that the Board support measure 15.</p> <p>I personally have observed for 12 years:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Many cats and dogs relinquished to the shelter system because of landlord regulations, adding to what is already a critical situation in both the County and City shelters -Numerous people coming into the shelters who would adopt, but cannot due to landlord restrictions (they typically come in with friends who are adopting) <p>I strongly urge support of 15 because:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -It could significantly reduce animal surrenders and increase adoptions, which relieves some of the pressure on the shelter system, and puts companion animals where they belong. -it can provide equity of pet ownership and provide pets to provide comfort and companionship to people challenged by their economic and personal circumstances. <p>Thank you for your time.</p> |



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| 15. | | Favor | Monica Alcaraz | <p>My name is Monica Alcaraz and I'm with Recycled Resourced for the Homeless and/or I am a community organizer.</p> <p>I would like to speak in support of Item #15 I want to thank Supervisor Hilda Solis for authoring this motion.</p> <p>I request the Board to support this motion that will create an opportunity for community to provide thoughtful solutions and respond to potential ideas as to what a fair solution to this ongoing issue of pets and housing.</p> <p>Too many pet owners for too many years have had to choose between putting a roof over their heads they can afford or keeping their pet. Pet ownership surrender has added to volume of animal lives lost and has added to the crisis in County animal shelters.</p> <p>For many folks Pets are Family and pet ownership has grown exponentially over the past few years due to the pandemic.</p> <p>There were pandemic era protections for folks but that does not help everyone.</p> <p>This motion is a step in the right direction to formally explore solutions, and I value the County's, namely Supervisor Solis', bravery in wanting to address this matter.</p> |
| | | | Nicholas Perez | |
| | | | Nicole A Perez | |
| | | | Nisida Rios | |
| | | | Ross Barker | |
| | | | Sandee J Scher | <p>As we grow or age pets are part of our family or sometimes the only family we have. We need to stay together and support each other. Pets are a true blessing and have been created to belong with families. Truly people that love pets have bigger hearts and help make life better. Dogs are a blessing to the blind, service animals and companions for improved mental health. Pets are family that need to stay together with their families.</p> |



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| 15. | | Favor | Sunny Shelton | I strongly favor passing more protections for Renters with pets. As a volunteer, I see firsthand the number of animals that are displaced by landlord restrictions, and I believe that a responsible pet owner should not be forbidden from renting an apartment simply for the fact that they have an animal they're not willing to relinquish. We are seeing the fallout of having such a prohibitive rental market in our shelters and it comes out a great cost to taxpayers, volunteers, employees, but none more so than the families and the pets that are lost as a result. Renters should not have to choose between an animal they love and a roof over their heads. |
| | | | Susan Ellis | <p>My name is Susan Ellis and I am an LA County resident, pet owner and pet advocate.</p> <p>I am in support of Item #15</p> <p>I want to thank Supervisor Hilda Solis for authoring this motion.</p> <p>I request the Board to support this motion that will create an opportunity for the community to provide thoughtful solutions and respond to potential ideas as to what a fair solution to this ongoing issue of pets and housing.</p> <p>Too many pet owners for too many years have had to choose between putting a roof over their heads they can afford or keeping their pet.</p> <p>Pet ownership surrender has added to the volume of animal lives lost and has added to the crisis in County animal shelters.</p> <p>For many folks Pets are Family and pet ownership has grown exponentially over the past few years due to the pandemic.</p> <p>There were pandemic era protections for folks but that does not help everyone.</p> <p>This motion is a step in the right direction to formally explore solutions, and I value the County's, namely Supervisor Solis', bravery in wanting to address this matter.</p> <p>Thank you.</p> |
| | | | Susan Riggs | |
| | | | Vanessa Hidden | It is essential to keep companion animals with their human carers for the well-being of both humans and animals, and to refrain from stressing already overburdened animal shelters. It is possible for homeless shelters and housing programs to accommodate pets without straining resources. |



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| 15. | | Favor | Victor Velasco | My name is Victor Velasco, and I am an eviction defense Paralegal at Public Counsel. I urge the Board of Supervisors to vote in favor of Item #15. This motion will allow for community members to contribute to critical dialogue and provide valuable feedback to potential solutions that will address the ongoing issue of pets and housing. As a Paralegal within the Homelessness Prevent Law Project I have spoken with several tenants that receive eviction notices for having pets, and then have to make the difficult decision between giving up their pet and retaining their housing or keeping their pet and giving up their housing, and moving away from their support system and community. In all cases the family pet is family, and surrendering them to a shelter is a heartbreaking decision many tenants are forced to make to stay housed. I want to thank Supervisor Hilda Solis for authoring this motion, and request that the entire Board support it. |
| | | | Wilba J Hussey | I request the Board to support this motion that will create an opportunity for the community to provide a fair solution to this ongoing issue of pets and housing. Too many pet owners for too many years have had to choose between putting a roof over their heads they can afford or keeping their pet. Pet ownership surrender has added to the volume of animal lives lost and has added to the crisis in County animal shelters. For many folks Pets are Family and pet ownership has grown exponentially over the past few years due to the pandemic. There were pandemic era protections for some folks but that does not help everyone. This motion is a step in the right direction to formally explore solutions, and I value the County's, namely Supervisor Solis', bravery in wanting to address this matter. Thank you. |
| | | | yadira flores | request the Board to support this motion that will create an opportunity for the community to provide thoughtful solutions and respond to potential ideas as to what a fair solution to this ongoing issue of pets and housing. |



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| 15. | | Oppose | Patricia Hess | The decision of a renter to be allowed to have a pet should be a case by case decision. Renters who demonstrate an inability to care for where they live and keep it a clean and safe environment should not be allowed to have a pet. My personal experience with renters having a pet includes destruction of the unit and the yard. This includes scratches on the window sills and doors and molding. It includes destruction of flooring due to urination and defecation. It is very hard to get the renter to take responsibility for damages. This is why a monthly pet fee needs to be required. Ownership of a pet is a two way street. The pet gives them their love and support, but the owner needs to also give that to their pet. I've seen pets crying, locked up in a room all day. The yard is littered with pet waste and holes. I love animals and want to protect them. Owners need to be responsible. They need to be able to buy them food and pay vet bills . If they can not afford to have a pet, then they can't have one. We all want things; either we work to have them or we can't have them. This goes for housing also. I would love to live in Brentwood, but I can't afford it, so I found a place I can afford. If you can't find a job, you go where you can find one. There are too many code/rules discrepancies between unincorporated areas of LA and the rest of LA. Why is that? |
| | | | paul burt | "Increasing Pet Equity in Housing" - Just when the taxpayers think they've read or heard it all, when it comes to this Board wasting taxpayer funds via frivolous, vote harvesting nonsensical Motions and Recommendations, Solis comes up with this winner! "Unbelievable" doesn't convey the half of it. Our K-12 schools remain unsecured by REAL, sworn, uniformed police officers! In Los Angeles County, more people were killed in automobile collisions in 2023, than were murdered! The National average for Hit & Run motor vehicle collisions is approximately 10 percent, while in Los Angeles County, that average is about 68 percent and this is all you people can put forth to the taxpayers? I find it appalling! |
| | | | Sari Phillips | The allowance of pets in apartments, condos, and homes should be on a case by case basis. Home / apartment insurance is not easy to get or keep and insurance companies will not insure you if you have certain breeds on the property. Also, a loud barking dog who cannot be controlled is a nuisance for the rest of the residents in an apartment building. The tenants will expect the landlord to control the noise, when he/she has little control over the pet. Also, with the current limit of only one month's rent for security deposit, if the pet causes extensive damage, the security deposit may not even cover the extent of pet damage, much less the tenant's damages. Please allow landlords/owners to determine whether a pet is appropriate. Thank you. |
| | | | Selia Hao | There are too many irresponsible pet owners that does not take care of themselves and family members first, let alone keeping pets, this is out of their ability for keeping health and safety of themselves, those animals and others community members. I oppose to this. |
| | | Item Total | 39 | |

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| Grand Total | | | 39 | |
|--------------------|--|--|-----------|--|



December 12, 2024

Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street, Suite 383
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Re: December 17, 2024 Agenda Item 15 – Keeping Pets and Families Together: Increasing Pet Equity in Housing

Honorable Members of the Board of Supervisors:

On behalf of the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (ASPCA), I am writing to express our support for Agenda Item 15, Keeping Pets and Families Together: Increasing Pet Equity in Housing (Motion). The Motion provides a productive first step for stakeholders to develop solutions that can ensure that renters aren't faced with a choice of keeping a roof over their head or surrendering their pet. We thank Supervisor Solis for her leadership in acknowledging the significant role that the County can take in avoiding this grim decision.

Founded in 1866, the ASPCA was the first humane society to be established in North America and is today one of the largest in the world. The ASPCA believes that pets and people belong together; that financial circumstances are not reliable indicators of the capacity to love and care for a companion animal, and that the strong bonds between people and pets make for healthier communities.

While we recognize the complex factors involved in the rental market, it is clear that the implications of restrictions on the keeping of pets in rental housing are many and highly detrimental to both pets and their people. The lack of supply of new housing has resulted in historically low vacancies and high rents in the rental market. While renters in general may have difficulty finding suitable housing options in the market, those households with pets are confronted with an even greater challenge. The tight rental market means landlords can be more discerning in the types of households they rent to and often exclude potential tenants with pets.

This is especially taxing for the ninety-seven percent of pet owners consider their pets part of their family. At a time of unprecedented housing instability for renters, the cost and availability of housing that allows pets is an increasing challenge for loving and responsible pet owners. As a result, thousands of dogs and cats are relinquished to County animal shelters every year, breaking apart families and adding additional stress to already difficult situations.

The ASPCA has been actively engaged in developing new pet-friendly housing laws at all levels of government, including the drafting of the pet-friendly affordable housing ordinances in both the City and County of Los Angeles. Through our work, we have gained a breadth of knowledge of the best practices for creating more equitable access to cost appropriate housing for families with pets. As such, we humbly offer our assistance with the stakeholder process.

Thank you for your humane leadership in promoting animal welfare for the County of Los Angeles. We respectfully urge your support for the Motion.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Susan Riggs". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Susan" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "Riggs".

Susan Lea Riggs
Sr. Director of Housing Policy
susan.riggs@aspca.org

Hello,

My name is Hannah and I'm a LA County resident and pet owner. I am writing in support of Item #15

I want to thank Supervisor Hilda Solis for authoring this motion.

I request the Board to support this motion that will create an opportunity for the community to provide thoughtful solutions and respond to potential ideas as to what a fair solution to this ongoing issue of pets and housing. Too many pet owners for too many years have had to choose between putting a roof over their heads they can afford or keeping their pet. Pet ownership surrender has added to the volume of animal lives lost and has added to the crisis in County animal shelters.

For many folks Pets are Family and pet ownership has grown exponentially over the past few years due to the pandemic. There were pandemic era protections for folks but that does not help everyone. This motion is a step in the right direction to formally explore solutions, and I value the County's, namely Supervisor Solis', bravery in wanting to address this matter.

Thank you.

Hello,

My name is Hanna and I'm a LA County resident and pet owner. I am writing in support of Item #15

I want to thank Supervisor Hilda Solis for authoring this motion.

I request the Board to support this motion that will create an opportunity for the community to provide thoughtful solutions and respond to potential ideas as to what a fair solution to this ongoing issue of pets and housing. Too many pet owners for too many years have had to choose between putting a roof over their heads they can afford or keeping their pet. Pet ownership surrender has added to the volume of animal lives lost and has added to the crisis in County animal shelters.

For many folks Pets are Family and pet ownership has grown exponentially over the past few years due to the pandemic. There were pandemic era protections for folks but that does not help everyone. This motion is a step in the right direction to formally explore solutions, and I value the County's, namely Supervisor Solis', bravery in wanting to address this matter.

Thank you.

My name is Nicole Perez and I'm with Kitten Rescue Organization and I am a LA County resident and pet parent. I would like to speak in support of Item #15. I want to thank Supervisor Hilda Solis for authoring this motion. I request the Board to support this motion that will create an opportunity for the community to provide thoughtful solutions and respond to potential ideas as to what a fair solution to this ongoing issue of pets and housing. Too many pet owners for too many years have had to choose between putting a roof over their heads they can afford or keeping their pet. Pet ownership surrender has added to the volume of animal lives lost and has added to the crisis in County animal shelters. For many folks Pets are Family and pet ownership has grown exponentially over the past few years due to the pandemic. There were pandemic era protections for folks but that does not help everyone. This motion is a step in the right direction to formally explore solutions, and I value the County's, namely Supervisor Solis', bravery in wanting to address this matter. Thank you.