

SUMMARY OF PROPOSED ORDINANCE

The Proposed Ordinance would add the following Sections to Title 9, Chapter 9.04 of the Ordinance Code of the County of Fresno: (1) Section 9.04.055-Unlawful conduct in the care of animals, cruelty, making it unlawful for a person to permit any cruel acts upon an animal, (2) Section 9.04.115-Sale of Animals at Swap Meets, which requires the operator of swap meets and vendors to follow certain conditions regarding the sale of animals at swap meets, and (3) Section 9.04.135-Right to Euthanize, which allows the sheltermaster to euthanize, rather than hold, any dog that is suffering. The Proposed Ordinance would revise or update terminology in various Sections within Chapter 9.04-Dog Licensing and Control, 9.08-Pets or Novelties, 9.12-Estray-Impoundment, and 9.16-Rodents and Predatory Animals, and would (1) bring the ordinance code into compliance with California law; (2) add the definitions of “at large” animals, and “county business days”; (3) provide fee waivers at the Director of Public Health’s discretion; (4) reduce the number of dogs from five to four in requirement to obtain a kennel license; (5) revise the holding period in which dogs (both licensed and unlicensed) may be held in the shelter before being considered abandoned; and (6) change the penalty for a violation of any provision within Chapter 9.04 from an infraction to a misdemeanor.