

# **AB 1634 Frequently Asked Questions**

# Q. Is this a real problem or a solution in search of a problem?

A. It's an urgent problem when nearly 1 million cats and dogs are taken in by California's severely overcrowded animal shelters every year and over half of those cats and dogs are euthanized.



### Q. What is the cost to taxpayers of overcrowded animal shelters?

A. California taxpayers are paying over \$250 million every year to shelter and euthanize unwanted pets. We are all paying for the neglect and irresponsibility of some pet owners.

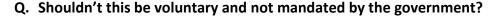
# Q. Do spay/neuter laws really work?

A. Mandatory spay/neuter laws are a common-sense solution with a record of success. Spay/neuter laws are on the books and working in several jurisdictions in California, including San Mateo, Lake, Santa Cruz and Stanislaus counties, and the city of San Bernardino just adopted a spay/neuter law. Shelter populations in Santa Cruz County dropped by 50% after a spay/neuter law was adopted.



#### Q. What if someone can't afford to spay or neuter their animals?

A. Free or low-cost spay/neuter services are widely available. Cities and counties throughout California offer free or low-cost spay/neuter services. In addition, local nonprofits such as the Humane Society often provide free services.



A. Voluntary spay/neuter laws simply aren't working. Despite the broad availability of free or low-cost spay/neuter services and extensive public education efforts, nearly 1 million unwanted cats and dogs end up in shelters, which is tantamount to a death sentence.

