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Senate Majority Leader Dean Florez  
State Capitol, Room 313  
Sacramento, CA 95814  
Fax: (916) 327-9057

Dear Senator Florez,

I am writing on behalf of Animal Advocates Alliance (“AAA”), a California non-profit corporation dedicated to promoting the humane treatment of animals through legal advocacy, community education initiatives designed to effect social change, and support of animal rescue organizations. Our Board of Directors is made up of four practicing attorneys; accordingly, we have a strong interest in legislative matters concerning animal welfare. Therefore, AAA submits the following statement in support of Senate Bill 250 (“Pet Responsibility Act”).

AAA believes that pet overpopulation is the root cause of overcrowding in California’s animal shelters, which forces animal control departments to euthanize hundreds of thousands of animals each year. AAA further believes that adequate spay/neuter legislation is *imperative* in order to reduce the overwhelming number of animals entering our shelters (approximately one million dogs and cats annually) and, in turn, reduce the number of adoptable animals being euthanized.

The Pet Responsibility Act addresses pet overpopulation head-on by imposing stricter spay/neuter requirements and would help move California toward becoming a no-kill state. Additionally, a reduction in pet overpopulation would certainly reduce the cost of housing and euthanizing animals in California shelters, which, in recent years, has risen to approximately \$250 million dollars annually. Given the current economic crisis, it is clearly in California’s best interest to enact Senate Bill 250.

It is our sincere hope that your colleagues in the Senate will vote in favor of this long-overdue legislation, which will help foster a more humane California for companion animals, and could potentially save the state millions of scarce dollars.

Respectfully Submitted,

Michele E. Westhoff  
Animal Advocates Alliance