



Legislation Details (With Text)

**File #:** 2021-1234    **Version:** 1  
**Type:** Proclamation    **Status:** Adopted  
**File created:** 2/19/2021    **In control:** City Council  
**On agenda:** 2/23/2021    **Final action:** 2/23/2021  
**Enactment date:** 2/23/2021    **Enactment #:** 125

**Effective date:**

**Title:** WHEREAS, pet ownership in the United States of America has more than tripled since the 1970s, and as of 2021, pets provide companionship to more than 85 million American households; and

**Sponsors:** Bobby Wilson, Bruce A. Kraus, All Members

**Indexes:** PROCLAMATION - MR. KRAUS, PROCLAMATION - MR. WILSON

**Code sections:**

**Attachments:**

Date	Ver.	Action By	Action	Result
2/23/2021	1	City Council	Adopted	Pass

*WHEREAS*, pet ownership in the United States of America has more than tripled since the 1970s, and as of 2021, pets provide companionship to more than 85 million American households; and

*WHEREAS*, nearly 90% of pets living in poverty and 98% of community (feral and stray) cats are unaltered; and

*WHEREAS*, an estimated six million cats and dogs enter our nation’s shelter system each year, of which, unfortunately, only 19% of shelter dogs and 3% of cats are reclaimed by their owners; and

*WHEREAS*, across the United States of America, animal shelters are forced to euthanize 1.5 million cats, dogs, and other animals each year, many of whom are healthy and adoptable, due to a lack of critical resources and public awareness; and

*WHEREAS*, this tragic overpopulation of pets costs the taxpayers of this country millions of dollars annually through animal service programs that must cope with large populations of stray dogs and cats; and

*WHEREAS*, spaying and neutering is the proven and humane method of reducing overpopulation and limiting the number of pets that end up in shelters; and

*WHEREAS*, free spay and neuter programs and educational outreach have proven to be wise investments for many communities, as these programs gradually decrease the number of stray animals in a given area; and

*WHEREAS*, through the City of Pittsburgh’s Free Spay and Neuter Program, any City resident can have up to five cats or dogs spayed or neutered for free; and

*WHEREAS*, since the creation of this program, Animal Friends and Humane Animal Rescue have performed

over 4,400 free surgeries; and

**WHEREAS**, this year marks the 27th annual **World Spay Day**, and since its inception, participants have spayed and saved millions of animals nationwide, and hundreds of thousands in the Pittsburgh region;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Council of the City of Pittsburgh declares Tuesday, February 23, 2021 “**World Spay Day**” here in our most livable City of Pittsburgh.