

Chapter 55.795 Commercial Breeding Permit

Background

In the 2009 legislative session, SB 299 made amendments to NRS 574 Cruelty to Animals, which requires ACO's to inspect and permit commercial breeding operations. This is a new proposed ordinance to Chapter 55 as legislatively required in current NRS 574. Currently in WCC 25 a commercial breeder is someone who engages in breeding five or more litters of dogs or cats in a calendar year, to sell, trade or give away to others. We are proposing to lower the number of litters to 3 in a calendar year.

Summary of proposed ordinance

- **Required by legislation NRS 574.**
- *Decrease from five to three litters per year.*
- Requires ACO to inspect and permit commercial breeding operations for welfare and report to Business Licensing.
 - Each permit number must be displayed in all advertising in which the breeder offers a dog or cat for sale and on all receipts.
 - Animal Control Officer may enter and inspect premises (NRS 574.360,574.440)
- Suspension or revocation of welfare permit
 - Due process applies
 - Permittee can file for an appeal within 14 days to the Washoe County Administrative Hearing Office.
 - Permittee may appeal the Hearing Officer's decision by filing a petition of judicial review within 30 days.
 - The welfare permit remains in place until decision is rendered.
 - Notification to Business Licensing
- Regulation on breeding sales criteria
 - Microchipping required
 - Vaccination required
 - Sales contract
 - Breeding limitation on age of breeding animal and on number of litters/yr.

Community Concerns

Confusion between Commercial Breeding Permit and Commercial Animal Permit. Commercial Breeding Permits established through NRS 574. Commercial Animal Permit refers to commercial establishments, retail, circuses, animal exhibits, performing sideshows, etc.

Concerns about over managing the sales of puppies and kittens in Washoe County.