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**Report to the Board of Animal Services Commissioners**  
**Edward A. Boks, General Manager**

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**COMMISSION MEETING DATE:** September 22, 2008    **PREPARED BY:** Miki Shaler

**REPORT DATE:** September 16, 2008    **TITLE:** Management Ass't

**SUBJECT:** Requests for Recognition for Dog and Cat Registries and Associations,  
Second Round September 2008

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**BOARD ACTION RECOMMENDED:**

That the Board review and approve the applications for the following dog and cat registries or associations for the American Rare Breed Association, American Rare Breed Association, American Cat Fanciers Association, Inc, Continental Kennel Club, Australian Shepherd Club of America, the American Dog Breeders Association and Dog Registry of America, Inc.

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**SUMMARY:**

On February 12, 2008, the City Council of Los Angeles approved a new law that requires all cats and dogs in the City to be spayed or neutered after the age of four months, with some specific exemptions allowed. One of the exemptions to the ordinance is "a breed approved by and registered with a registry or association approved by the Animal Services Commission, (which) does or will actively show or compete."

At the Board of Animal Services Commission meeting on August 25, 2008, the Board reviewed applications submitted during the first round (June-August 2008) application process and voted to recognize three registries. Following that Commission meeting, staff sent a second letter to more than 30 dog and cat registries and associations inviting them to apply for recognition by the Board of Animal Services Commissioners to

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provide certification that may exempt certain dogs and cats from the spay and neuter requirements of Los Angeles Municipal Code (LAMC) 53.15.2 and explaining what this recognition meant for their members.

Five additional applications have been received. The American Rare Breed Association, which had previously applied but was not recognized, also was contacted to provide additional information about their application per the Board's recommendation. The evaluation of each application is provided below:

<b>ORGANIZATION NAME</b>	<b>The American Rare Breed Association</b>	<b>American Cat Fanciers Association, Inc.</b>	<b>Continental Kennel Club</b>	<b>Australian Shepherd Club of America</b>	<b>American Dog Breeders Association</b>	<b>Dog Registry of America, Inc.</b>
<b>Type of Registry</b>	Purebred dog	Cat	Dog	Dog	Dog	Dog
<b>Includes background information</b>	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
<b>Includes explanation of certificate process</b>	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
<b>Established 3 + years</b>	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
<b>Maintains and Enforces a code of ethics for breeding that includes:</b>						
<b>Knowledge of the breed standard, the basic principles of genetics, and the pedigrees of prospective stud and matron;</b>	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
<b>Restricting the breeding of animals that are not physically or temperamentally sound or have defects and life-threatening health problems that commonly threaten the breed;</b>	Not Specified, but does have breed standards.	Y	Not Specified, but does have breed standards.	Y	Not Specified, but does have breed standards.	Y

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	The American Rare Breed Association	American Cat Fanciers Association, Inc.	Continental Kennel Club	Australian Shepherd Club of America	American Dog Breeders Association	Dog Registry of America, Inc.
Requiring that animals are thoroughly examined by a veterinarian before breeding to determine that they are healthy, mature, and suitable for this purpose;	Y	Requires cats & kittens to be under the care of a vet	Info not provided	Y	All dogs to be provided with veterinary care	Y
Denying, suspending, or revoking membership of any breeder in violation of its code of ethics or who is proven to have been convicted of a crime against an animal.	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Does not allow, endorse, or engage in any activity that is determined to be intentionally harmful or detrimental to the health and/or safety of animals or humans	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Participates in, sponsors, or organizes bona fide competitions or shows that make awards based on merit	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Sanctions affiliate dog club shows
Explains the process and criteria used in issuing a certification	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
<b>RECOMMENDATION</b>	<b>APPROVE</b>	<b>APPROVE</b>	<b>APPROVE</b>	<b>APPROVE</b>	<b>APPROVE</b>	<b>APPROVE</b>

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The Department recommends that the Commission approve the applications submitted by the American Rare Breed Association, American Cat Fanciers Association, Inc, Continental Kennel Club, Australian Shepherd Club of America, the American Dog Breeders Association and Dog Registry of America, Inc. Without recognition by the Board, registries and associations will not be able to provide valid certification to be used by their members, leaving dog and cat owners without the tools to obtain valid exemptions. While the associations and registries may provide their members in good standing with a certificate, it will still remain the responsibility of the dog or cat owner who is applying for the exemption to provide proof that their animals has competed, or is training to compete, in a club sanctioned show.

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**FISCAL IMPACT:**

Dog and cat owners, who provide an original letter or certificate from an approved dog or cat registry or association, can receive an exemption from the Spay/Neuter Ordinance, (LAMC) Section 53.15.2. Exempted dog owners will be required to purchase a \$100 unaltered dog license (the altered dog license is \$15). The potential increase in revenue to the Department is directly correlated to the number of dog owners who request exemption from the Spay/Neuter Ordinance citing this exemption.

Approved:

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**Edward A. Boks, General Manager**

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**BOARD ACTION:**

\_\_\_\_\_ Passed

Disapproved \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Passed with noted modifications

Continued \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Tabled

New Date \_\_\_\_\_