



# MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON

## BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

### Beverly Stein, Chair

1120 SW Fifth Avenue, Suite 1515  
Portland, Or 97204-1914

Phone: (503) 248-3308 FAX (503) 248-3093

Email: mult.chair@co.multnomah.or.us

### Diane Linn, Commission Dist. 1

1120 SW Fifth Avenue, Suite 1500  
Portland, Or 97204-1914

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### Serena Cruz, Commission Dist. 2

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### Lisa Naito, Commission Dist. 3

1120 SW Fifth Avenue, Suite 1500  
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### Sharron Kelley, Commission Dist. 4

1120 SW Fifth Avenue, Suite 1500  
Portland, Or 97204-1914

Phone: (503) 248-5213 FAX (503) 248-5262

Email: sharron.e.kelley@co.multnomah.or.us

### ANY QUESTIONS? CALL BOARD CLERK DEB BOGSTAD @ 248-3277

Email: deborah.l.bogstad@co.multnomah.or.us

**INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES  
PLEASE CALL THE BOARD CLERK  
AT 248-3277, OR MULTNOMAH  
COUNTY TDD PHONE 248-5040, FOR  
INFORMATION ON AVAILABLE  
SERVICES AND ACCESSIBILITY.**

## AUGUST 2, 3 & 5, 1999 BOARD MEETINGS

### FASTLOOK AGENDA ITEMS OF INTEREST

Pg 2	6:00 p.m. Monday Public Hearing on Proposed Dog & Cat Food Fee
Pg 2	9:30 a.m. Tuesday Rural County Land Use Planning Values Discussion
Pg 2	10:00 a.m. Tuesday Early Childhood Development Briefing
Pg 3	9:30 a.m. Thursday A&DS RESULTS
Pg 3	9:50 a.m. Thursday Resolution Creating Mental Health Task Force
Pg 3	10:05 a.m. Thursday Organizational Self-Assessment Findings
Pg 4	11:00 a.m. Thursday E 1-99 De Novo Land Use Appeal Hearing
★	<b>Check the County Web Site:</b> <b><a href="http://www.co.multnomah.or.us/">http://www.co.multnomah.or.us/</a></b>

Thursday meetings of the Multnomah County Board of Commissioners are cable-cast live and taped and may be seen by Cable subscribers in Multnomah County at the following times:

Thursday, 9:30 AM, (LIVE) Channel 30  
Friday, 10:00 PM, Channel 30  
Sunday, 1:00 PM, Channel 30

Produced through Multnomah Community  
Television

Monday, August 2, 1999 - 6:00 PM  
Multnomah County Courthouse, Boardroom 602  
1021 SW Fourth Avenue, Portland

## **PUBLIC HEARING**

PH-1 Public Hearing on a Proposed Fee on Dog and Cat Food Purchased in the County to Fund Animal Control Services and Replace the Current License Fee. Testimony Limited to Three Minutes Per Person. 2 HOURS REQUESTED.

**Please Note:** Portland Cable Access has granted permission for the Multnomah Community Television cable coverage to go live from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. on Monday, August 2, 1999. The following are additional cable playback date/times:

Live:	Monday	August 2	6:00 p.m.	Channel 30
Playback:	Wednesday	August 4	7:00 p.m.	Channel 30
	Friday	August 6	8:00 p.m.	Channel 30
	Wednesday	August 11	6:00 p.m.	Channel 30
	Saturday	August 14	6:00 p.m.	Channel 30

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Tuesday, August 3, 1999 - 9:30 AM  
Multnomah County Courthouse, Boardroom 602  
1021 SW Fourth Avenue, Portland

## **BOARD BRIEFINGS**

B-1 Continued Discussion on Land Use Planning Values for Rural Multnomah County. Presented by Kathy Busse, Susan Muir and Gary Clifford. 30 MINUTES REQUESTED.

B-2 Early Childhood Issues Briefing. Presented by Lisa Naito, Denise Chuckovich and Members of the County Workgroup on Early Childhood. 1 HOUR REQUESTED.

Thursday, August 5, 1999 - 9:30 AM  
Multnomah County Courthouse, Boardroom 602  
1021 SW Fourth Avenue, Portland

## **REGULAR MEETING**

### **CONSENT CALENDAR**

### **NON-DEPARTMENTAL**

C-1 Appointment of Richard Reiten to the LIBRARY ADVISORY BOARD

### **DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE**

C-2 Amendment 3 to Intergovernmental Revenue Agreement 500266 with the State of Oregon Office for Services to Children and Families, Funding the Termination of Parental Rights Program for 1999-2001

### **REGULAR AGENDA**

### **PUBLIC COMMENT - 9:30 AM**

R-1 Opportunity for Public Comment on Non-Agenda Matters. Testimony Limited to Three Minutes Per Person.

### **AGING AND DISABILITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT - 9:30 AM**

R-2 Results from RESULTS: Adult Care Home Program Form Redesign Process Improvement Team. Presented by Kathy Wiseman, Paul McWhorter and Shelley Immel. 10 MINUTES REQUESTED.

### **DEPARTMENT OF SUPPORT SERVICES - 9:40 AM**

R-3 ORDER Denying Appeal of Merit System Civil Service Council Decision Regarding William Gillespie's Records Request

### **NON-DEPARTMENTAL - 9:50 AM**

R-4 RESOLUTION Creating a Multnomah County Mental Health Task Force

R-5 How We Manage the County: A Report of the Organizational Self-Assessment Findings. Presented by Beverly Stein, Department Directors and Carla Gonzales. 45 MINUTES REQUESTED.

**DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES - 10:50 AM**

- R-6 Second Reading and Possible Adoption of an ORDINANCE Repealing Multnomah County Ordinance 903 Pertaining to Expiration Periods for Certain Single Family Dwellings Approved in the Exclusive Farm Use Districts
- R-7 RESOLUTION Authorizing Grant of a Public Walkway Easement to the City of Portland, a Municipal Corporation of the State of Oregon
- R-8 De Novo Hearing on Appeal of Hearings Officer Decision Denying E 1-99 Regarding Request for Retroactive Exception to the Secondary Fire and Safety Zones and Forest Practices Setbacks for an Illegal Structure on Property Located on NW Skyline Boulevard. Presented by Tricia Sears and Deniece Won. TESTIMONY LIMITED TO 20 MINUTES PER SIDE. 1 HOUR REQUESTED.

**COMMISSIONER COMMENT/LEGISLATIVE ISSUES - 12:00 PM**

- R-9 Opportunity (as Time Allows) for Commissioners to Comment on Non-Agenda Items or to Discuss Legislative Issues.

SHARRON KELLEY  
Multnomah County Commissioner  
District 4



Portland Building  
1120 S.W. Fifth Avenue, Suite 1500  
Portland, Oregon 97204  
(503) 248-5213  
E-Mail: sharron.e.KELLEY@co.multnomah.or.us

## MEMORANDUM

TO: Chair Beverly Stein  
Commissioner Diane Linn  
Commissioner Serena Cruz  
Commissioner Lisa Naito  
Board Clerk Deb Bogstad

FROM: Debra Erickson  
Staff to Commissioner Sharron Kelley

DATE: June 30, 1999

RE: Board Meeting Absences

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Commissioner Kelley will be taking time off during the month of August. She will not be attending the Board meetings scheduled for August 3, 5, 12, 17, 19, & 26, 1999. Should an issue arise which merits her participation, the Commissioner may elect to be available for the meeting, either in person or via speakerphone.

BOARD OF  
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
JUN 30 PM 2 19  
MULTNOMAH COUNTY  
OREGON

#1

# SPEAKER SIGN UP CARDS

DATE August 2, 1999 "Schlueter"

NAME Jonathan Schlueter

ADDRESS 200 SW Market St  
Portland

PHONE 503 227-0234

SPEAKING ON AGENDA ITEM NUMBER OR  
TOPIC Pet Food Surcharge

**GIVE TO BOARD CLERK**

#2

## SPEAKER SIGN UP CARDS

DATE

8/2/99

NAME

BILL LAPOLLA "FALLA"<sup>u</sup>

ADDRESS

6333 SW MACADAM

DPX OR 97201

PHONE

503 244 9538

SPEAKING ON AGENDA ITEM NUMBER OR  
TOPIC

GIVE TO BOARD CLERK

#3

## SPEAKER SIGN UP CARDS

DATE 8/2/99

NAME

Denise Ziegler "Zigler"

ADDRESS

18640 SE Yamhill Circle

Portland, OR

PHONE

1067-1594

SPEAKING ON AGENDA ITEM NUMBER OR  
TOPIC Tax - Animal Foods

**GIVE TO BOARD CLERK**

#4

## SPEAKER SIGN UP CARDS

DATE

2 August 1999

NAME

Rebecca Newell

ADDRESS

1361 SW Broadway Dr.  
PDX 97201

PHONE

\_\_\_\_\_

SPEAKING ON AGENDA ITEM NUMBER OR  
TOPIC

\_\_\_\_\_

GIVE TO BOARD CLERK

#5

## SPEAKER SIGN UP CARDS

DATE 8-02-99

NAME

Tom CRDPPER

ADDRESS

PO Box 18025

Portland 97218

PHONE

281-2024

SPEAKING ON AGENDA ITEM NUMBER OR  
TOPIC Pet Food Tax (No)

GIVE TO BOARD CLERK

#6

# SPEAKER SIGN UP CARDS

DATE 8-2-99

NAME

ROGER TROEN "TRO-EN"

ADDRESS

4226 N. MONT. AV.

97217

PHONE

287-7894

SPEAKING ON AGENDA ITEM NUMBER OR  
TOPIC

GIVE TO BOARD CLERK

#7

# SPEAKER SIGN UP CARDS

**DATE** 8/2/99

**NAME** Dana Campbell

**ADDRESS** 2103 SE Belmont

Portland, OR 97219

**PHONE** 231-1602

**SPEAKING ON AGENDA ITEM NUMBER OR TOPIC** Pet Tax

**GIVE TO BOARD CLERK**

#8

## SPEAKER SIGN UP CARDS

DATE

Aug 2/99

NAME

PHYLLIS JOHANSON

ADDRESS

2237 S.W. MARKET

PORT. 97201

PHONE

228-4237

SPEAKING  
TOPIC

ON AGENDA ITEM NUMBER OR

PET FOOD TAX

GIVE TO BOARD CLERK

#9

## SPEAKER SIGN UP CARDS

DATE 8-2-99 STRANAHAN

NAME

Luis R. Stranahan

ADDRESS

2934 SE 26

PHONE

503 232-7446

SPEAKING ON AGENDA ITEM NUMBER OR  
TOPIC

GIVE TO BOARD CLERK

#10

## SPEAKER SIGN UP CARDS

DATE 8-2-99

NAME

Barbara Anderson

ADDRESS

10830 NE SACRAMENTO ST

PORTLAND, OR 97220

PHONE

253-6325

SPEAKING ON AGENDA ITEM NUMBER OR  
TOPIC

GIVE TO BOARD CLERK

#11

# SPEAKER SIGN UP CARDS

DATE AUGUST 2, 1999

NAME MICHAEL TWAIN (OREGON PET INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION)

ADDRESS P.O. BOX 14707

PORTLAND, OR 97293

PHONE 503-239-4266

SPEAKING ON AGENDA ITEM NUMBER OR  
TOPIC DOG/CAT FOOD TARGETED SALES TAX

**GIVE TO BOARD CLERK**

#12

## SPEAKER SIGN UP CARDS

DATE 8-2-99

NAME

KATY GALLAGHER

ADDRESS

8829 NE Mill Way  
Portland 97220

PHONE

(503)

251-8353

SPEAKING ON AGENDA ITEM NUMBER OR  
TOPIC Food Tax - Pets

GIVE TO BOARD CLERK

#13

## SPEAKER SIGN UP CARDS

DATE

8/2/99

NAME

KIM EVERETT

ADDRESS

215 NW HERMOSA BLVD

PORTLAND, OR 97218

PHONE

223-9062

SPEAKING ON AGENDA ITEM NUMBER OR  
TOPIC

CAT/009 FOOD TAX

GIVE TO BOARD CLERK

#14

## SPEAKER SIGN UP CARDS

DATE 8-2-99

NAME TOM BALFE

ADDRESS 5050 NW 180TH

PORTLAND 97229

PHONE 629-5206

SPEAKING ON AGENDA ITEM NUMBER OR  
TOPIC MULT CO. PET FOOD TAX

GIVE TO BOARD CLERK

#15

## SPEAKER SIGN UP CARDS

DATE

8-2-99

NAME

Dr Chris Holenstein

ADDRESS

520 NW DIVISION

Gresham Oregon 97030

PHONE

503-666-1600

SPEAKING ON AGENDA ITEM NUMBER OR  
TOPIC

GIVE TO BOARD CLERK

#14

# SPEAKER SIGN UP CARDS

DATE 8/2/99

NAME

LON INGALSBY "INGLESBY"

ADDRESS

600 S SW 47<sup>12</sup>

PHONE

245 5587

SPEAKING ON AGENDA ITEM NUMBER OR  
TOPIC SUPPORTING NUMBERS

GIVE TO BOARD CLERK

#17

# SPEAKER SIGN UP CARDS

DATE 8-2-99

NAME

Eather L Welpenstine

ADDRESS

910 SW Park Ave #204  
Portland, OR 97205

PHONE

220-1379

SPEAKING ON AGENDA ITEM NUMBER OR  
TOPIC Annual Current Control

GIVE TO BOARD CLERK

#18

## SPEAKER SIGN UP CARDS

DATE 8-2-99

NAME Paulette Stokes

ADDRESS 910 SW Park <sup>Ave.</sup> # ~~100~~ 4

Portland, OR 97205

PHONE 728 8429

SPEAKING ON AGENDA ITEM NUMBER OR  
TOPIC Animal Current Control

GIVE TO BOARD CLERK

#19

## SPEAKER SIGN UP CARDS

DATE 8/2/99

NAME

Patricid KEPLER

ADDRESS

5850 SW 177<sup>th</sup> ave

Alhambra, 97007

PHONE

649-5080

SPEAKING ON AGENDA, ITEM NUMBER OR  
TOPIC pet food tax

GIVE TO BOARD CLERK

#20

# SPEAKER SIGN UP CARDS

DATE 8/2/99

NAME JANET MARCLEY-HAYES

ADDRESS PO Box 1327

TUALATIN ORE 97062

PHONE 625-7692

SPEAKING ON AGENDA ITEM NUMBER OR  
TOPIC PET FOOD TAX

**GIVE TO BOARD CLERK**

#21

## SPEAKER SIGN UP CARDS

DATE

8/2/98

NAME

KATHRYN "CHERIE" HOLENSTEIN

ADDRESS

6141 SE Steele

PHONE

771-5675

SPEAKING ON AGENDA ITEM NUMBER OR  
TOPIC

GIVE TO BOARD CLERK

\*GAVE HIS 3 minutes to MS HOLENSTEIN\*

# SPEAKER SIGN UP CARDS

DATE 8/2/99

NAME Richard L Kosniy

ADDRESS PO Box 15045

Portland OR 97215

PHONE 235-5953

SPEAKING ON AGENDA ITEM NUMBER OR  
TOPIC \_\_\_\_\_

GIVE TO BOARD CLERK

#22

# SPEAKER SIGN UP CARDS

DATE 8/2/99 Scott  
NAME Judy Wilkins SPEAKING  
FOR

ADDRESS 1019 SW 10th, Apt 105  
Portland 97205

PHONE 227-3504

SPEAKING ON AGENDA ITEM NUMBER OR  
TOPIC ~~XXXX~~ Pet Food Tax

GIVE TO BOARD CLERK

#23

SPEAKER SIGN UP CARDS

DATE 8/2/99

NAME Rose Mary Joslin

ADDRESS 3134 NE 62nd

PHONE 282-8938

SPEAKING ON AGENDA ITEM NUMBER OR  
TOPIC \_\_\_\_\_

GIVE TO BOARD CLERK

#24

## SPEAKER SIGN UP CARDS

DATE 8-2-99

NAME

Carey Theil "TEAL"

ADDRESS

829 NE 91st

Portland, OR 97220

PHONE

503-705-4557

SPEAKING ON AGENDA ITEM NUMBER OR  
TOPIC

Dog & Cat Food Tax

**GIVE TO BOARD CLERK**

#25

## SPEAKER SIGN UP CARDS

DATE

8-2-99

NAME

Rebecca Scott DVM

ADDRESS

1218 N Killingsworth

Portland OR

97217

PHONE

283 0753

SPEAKING ON AGENDA ITEM NUMBER OR  
TOPIC

GIVE TO BOARD CLERK

#26

# SPEAKER SIGN UP CARDS

DATE 8-2-99

NAME Ellen Cluff

ADDRESS 3306 NE 41st Av

PHONE (503) 288-5959

SPEAKING ON AGENDA ITEM NUMBER OR  
TOPIC \_\_\_\_\_

GIVE TO BOARD CLERK

#27

## SPEAKER SIGN UP CARDS

DATE 8-2-99

NAME

Dr Kelly Nielsen

ADDRESS

4731 Wildwood

Lake Oswego OR 97035

PHONE

6999175

SPEAKING ON AGENDA ITEM NUMBER OR  
TOPIC pet food tax

GIVE TO BOARD CLERK

#28

# SPEAKER SIGN UP CARDS

DATE 8/2/99

NAME

Phil Dreyer

ADDRESS

742 SE 39

PHONE

231 8587

SPEAKING ON AGENDA ITEM NUMBER OR  
TOPIC

GIVE TO BOARD CLERK

#29

# SPEAKER SIGN UP CARDS

DATE

8/2/99

NAME

Cynthia Eadley

ADDRESS

PHONE

SPEAKING ON AGENDA ITEM NUMBER OR  
TOPIC

GIVE TO BOARD CLERK

#30

# SPEAKER SIGN UP CARDS

DATE 0/2/99 "Brown"

NAME

Rosemary Brown

ADDRESS

2847 9th - 11th  
Bedford

PHONE

282-2433

SPEAKING ON AGENDA ITEM NUMBER OR  
TOPIC

GIVE TO BOARD CLERK

MEETING DATE: AUG 02 1999  
AGENDA NO: PH-1  
ESTIMATED START TIME: 6:00

(Above Space for Board Clerk's Use ONLY)

**AGENDA PLACEMENT FORM**

SUBJECT: Multnomah County's Proposed Dog and Cat Food Fee

BOARD BRIEFING: DATE REQUESTED: \_\_\_\_\_  
REQUESTED BY: \_\_\_\_\_  
AMOUNT OF TIME NEEDED: \_\_\_\_\_

REGULAR MEETING: DATE REQUESTED: August 2, 1999  
AMOUNT OF TIME NEEDED: 2 hours

DEPARTMENT: Environmental Services DIVISION: Animal Control

CONTACT: Hank Miggins TELEPHONE #: x83790 x234  
BLDG/ROOM #: 455/224

PERSON(S) MAKING PRESENTATION: Hank Miggins

**ACTION REQUESTED:**

INFORMATIONAL ONLY    POLICY DIRECTION    APPROVAL    OTHER

**SUGGESTED AGENDA TITLE:**

*Multnomah County's Proposed Dog and Cat Food Fee*

BOARD OF  
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
99 JUL 23 PM 11:59  
MULTNOMAH COUNTY  
OREGON

**SIGNATURES REQUIRED:**

ELECTED OFFICIAL: \_\_\_\_\_  
(OR)  
DEPARTMENT  
MANAGER: *Lou E. Nicholas*

ALL ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENTS MUST HAVE REQUIRED SIGNATURES

Any Questions: Call the Board Clerk @ 248-3277

Contact: Michael Pullen, Multnomah County Public Affairs (503) 736-6804

Release: July 26, 1999

## **County commissioners schedule public hearing on proposed dog and cat food tax**

Multnomah County's Board of Commissioners has scheduled a public hearing to gather comments on a proposed tax on dog and cat food purchased in the county. Revenue from the tax would be used to fund animal control services and would replace the current license fee.

The hearing will be held on Monday, August 2nd from 6 pm to 8 pm at Multnomah County Courthouse, 1021 SW Fourth Ave., Room #602. Multnomah Community Television will broadcast the hearing live on Channel 30 with rebroadcasts August 4 at 7 pm; August 6 at 8 pm; August 11 at 6 pm; and August 14 at 6 pm.

Two public workshops on the proposed ordinance will also be held to provide information and gather public comments:

- August 17, 7 pm to 9 pm, Kaiser Permanente Town Hall, 3706 North Interstate Ave., Portland.
- August 23, 7 pm to 9 pm, East Portland Community Center, 740 SE 106<sup>th</sup> Ave., Portland

"If the ordinance passes, we will be the first county in the nation to try this," noted County Commissioner Sharron Kelley. "So we need to be good listeners at this stage and hear from all points of view. The proposed ordinance has already been improved by suggestions we've received from the public."

The ordinance would add a 5 cent on a dollar surcharge to the cost of dog and cat food in Multnomah County, starting January 1, 2000. It is intended to be a fairer and more effective way to fund animal services. Pet licenses and property taxes currently fund services. But surveys show that more than half of dog and cat owners do not license their pets. The surcharge is intended to spread the cost of animal services among all dog and cat owners. In most cases it would cost less than the current license fee.

- more -

According to the proposal:

- The surcharge would be collected by pet food retailers.
- A cat owner would pay about \$5 to \$9 per year and a dog owner would pay about \$8 to \$13 per year, compared to the current annual license fees for cats and dogs of \$8 to \$35.
- Food that can only be purchased with a veterinarian's prescription would not be taxed.
- Dogs and cats would be licensed when pets receive a rabies shot from their veterinarian, which will still be required every one to three years, depending on the animal's age.
- The surcharge would raise an estimated \$4 million per year. All funds would be dedicated by ordinance to fund animal control services.

Multnomah County Animal Control promotes and enforces responsible pet ownership. Services include: pet adoptions; sick and injured pet rescue; investigating and citation for animal cruelty and neglect; safe-keeping for lost or stray pets and livestock; investigating animal bites and nuisance complaints; and education programs promoting responsible pet ownership.

Surcharge revenue would permit the County to restore or expand services that have been cut in recent years. Animal Control would use surcharge revenue to increase: shelter hours to six days a week; neighborhood patrols; pet adoption promotion; response to nuisance complaints; and education and training programs for children and adults. Veterinary care would also be provided at the shelter.

The Board of County Commissioners is scheduled to hold a first reading of the ordinance on September 16 and a second reading on September 23. Both meetings begin at 9:30 a.m. at the Multnomah County Courthouse, Room #602.

For more information, contact Multnomah County Public Affairs Office at (503) 736-6800; fax (503) 736-6801; email [pao.org@co.multnomah.or.us](mailto:pao.org@co.multnomah.or.us)

# # #



**MULTNOMAH  
COUNTY**

# Department of Environmental Services

1600 SE 190<sup>th</sup> Ave.  
Portland, OR 97233

Multnomah County Animal Control has proposed a tax on dog and cat food to replace the current license fee. The Board of County Commissioners will consider a local ordinance in September.

On June 24, 1999, the Animal Control Division held a public meeting to introduce its proposal and seek public comment. This document responds to issues and questions raised.

The proposed ordinance is a "work in process" and the final product will be shaped by additional comments and discussions. The County has scheduled more public information meetings that will take place before a Dog and Cat Food Surcharge Ordinance is formally presented to the Board of County Commissioners during public hearings. (See box on last page.)

## Questions

and

About Multnomah County's Proposed Dog and Cat Food Tax

Answers

### 1. Why a tax on dog and cat food? \_\_\_\_\_

Revenue from the proposed tax would fund services provided by the Multnomah County Animal Control Division. The expected revenue would fund current Division services and additional services requested by the public, such as longer opening hours at the shelter, more officers responding in the community, etc. In addition, there would be sufficient funds to enable the Division to operate without the use of general fund/property tax dollars.

A user-based tax is a fairer and more effective way to fund these needed services. Pet licenses and property taxes currently fund services, but many people do not license their pets. Statistics indicate 55% of all dogs and cats are not licensed. A dog and cat food tax would spread the cost of animal services among all dog and cat owners and would usually cost less than a license.

### 2. What services does Multnomah County Animal Control provide? \_\_\_\_\_

Multnomah County Animal Control promotes and enforces responsible pet ownership. Services include:

- Pet adoptions
- Sick and injured pet rescue
- Investigating and citation for animal cruelty and neglect
- Safe-keeping for lost or stray pets and livestock
- Investigating animal bites and nuisance complaints
- Education programs promoting responsible pet ownership

### 3. How will the tax proposal work? \_\_\_\_\_

- A 5 cents on a dollar surcharge would be added to the cost of dog and cat food in Multnomah County starting January 1, 2000. (Most animal services are related to dogs and cats.)
- Dogs and cats would be licensed when pets receive a rabies shot from their veterinarian, which will still

be required every one to three years, depending on the animal's age. The licensing program continues and dog and cat owners will receive notification when their pet's rabies vaccination is about to expire.

- It is estimated the surcharge would raise about \$4 million per year. All funds would be dedicated by ordinance to fund animal control services.

**4. What new programs or improved services would the tax be used for? \_\_\_\_\_**

Community outreach increases public knowledge of Animal Control services and prevents problems by educating more residents about the responsibilities of pet ownership. Additional funding would allow Animal Control to offer several new education programs, in partnership with neighborhood associations, schools, and other groups.

- 1. Responsible pet ownership.** Owning a pet is a responsibility that is taken on by the pet owner. This module emphasizes the requirements and obligation owners have for the proper care of a pet.
- 2. Bite Prevention.** This module teaches children how to avoid being seriously bitten.
- 3. Junior Pet Protector.** This new module teaches children about the responsibilities of pet ownership, including: the importance of spaying and neutering a pet; proper confinement of the pet for its safety; and care and feeding.
- 4. Neighborhood conflict resolution.** This service includes a partnership with neighborhood mediators to assist in resolving neighborhood conflicts. Often, neighborhood animal complaints stem from a larger, unresolved conflict not relating to animals.
- 5. Speakers Bureau will be expanded.** This is a service available to community groups and neighborhood associations to deal with pet problems and community livability issues involving pets.
- 6. Neighborhood rabies shots and pet licensing.** Through a pet registration in the parks service, this ongoing project, which partners with neighborhood associations, parks, and area veterinarians, allows pet owners to have their pet vaccinated against rabies in their own neighborhood. At the same time, Animal Control completes the pet registration and issues an ID tag, so found pets can be returned to their owner.
- 7. Microchip ID System.** This service enables "chipped" dogs and cats to be placed in a national registry and have their owner identified anywhere in the country.

Surcharge revenue would restore and expand other services that have recently been cut. Animal control will increase:

- Shelter hours
- Response to nuisance complaints
- Pet adoption promotion
- Neighborhood patrols

These are just a few things Multnomah County Animal Control could do with a permanent, stable funding source.

**5. What happens to the current licensing system for cats and dogs? \_\_\_\_\_**

Under the proposal, the licensing system will remain, but dog and cat owners will not pay a license fee. Dogs and cats will still need to be licensed and have a current rabies vaccination. The veterinarian who provides the vaccination will send a copy of the certificate to Animal Control, which in turn will issue an identification tag to the pet owner at the address shown on the rabies certificate. The identification tag will be sent only if the animal has not previously received a tag or if the owner has lost the tag. Animal Control uses the license information to help return lost animals to their owners and to notify owners when the rabies vaccination is due to expire.

**6. How much would a dog or cat owner pay under the proposal? \_\_\_\_\_**

A 5% tax on dog and cat food is proposed. Based on a study of dog and cat food prices, packaging, and brands, the statistical model used indicates that 92% of all dog and cat owners will pay less than \$15 in tax a year. The amount of tax paid, however, can fluctuate depending on what brand of food is purchased, the packaging size purchased, and the retailer from whom the food is purchased.

- 7. Currently, there is a higher license fee for dogs and cats that have not been spayed or neutered. Under the proposal, will owners with unaltered dogs and cats bare any greater burden? \_\_\_\_\_**

There would be no special licensing requirement for unaltered dogs and cats. The owners of lost unaltered dogs and cats that are recovered by Animal Control will be fined \$100. The owner will be given fifteen (15) working days to have the animal spayed or neutered, at which time the fine will be reduced to zero. The fine for a second infraction would be \$300.

Under the proposal, Animal Control will be able to transport adopted animals to veterinarians within a five-mile radius of the shelter for spaying or neutering.

- 8. Will there be any subsidy for people who cannot afford to spay or neuter their pets, for seniors, or for people with animals prescribed as assistance animals under the Americans with Disabilities Act? \_\_\_\_\_**

The Division currently has a low-cost spay/neuter program that subsidizes the cost of the surgery for those needing assistance. This program will continue under the proposal.

Seniors, low-income residents, and people with animals prescribed as assistance animals under the ADA may be issued a certificate, equal to 50% of what a license costs under the current licensing fee structure (as of December 31, 1999) but not greater than \$15. Individuals could use the certificate to obtain a rabies vaccination for their dog or cat from a veterinarian of their choosing.

- 9. Since only dog and cat food will be taxed, how will Animal Control fund services for other animals? \_\_\_\_\_**

There are times when it is necessary for Multnomah County Animal Control Division to provide services that are the responsibility of another government agency or to provide care for animals other than dogs and cats. In those instances, the appropriate government agency will be billed to recover Animal Control's cost of providing the service. When it is necessary for the Division to provide services for private citizens involving their animals, other than dogs and/or cats, the citizen will be billed, as is the current practice for livestock cases.

- 10. Will the revenue from the dog and cat food tax be spent for other government services besides Animal Control? \_\_\_\_\_**

No. The proposed ordinance would only allow funds to be used by Animal Control. This can only be changed by a new ordinance passed by the Board of County Commissioners.

- 11. How will the County enforce the tax collection? \_\_\_\_\_**

The issue of collection is still being developed. There will, however, be an administrative cost built into the proposal to support the collection and enforcement of the tax.

**12. What other proposals have been considered to fund Animal Control services? \_\_\_\_\_**

Three other proposals were given serious consideration. They were:

- **Charging each jurisdiction within the county for the service calls it generates.** This was presented to but not supported by the jurisdictions contacted.
- **Reduce services to enable the Division to concentrate on providing excellence in a few areas.** As the County's human and pet populations grow, there is an increasing public demand for more Animal Control services. Based on these demands, this option was not acceptable.
- **Increase fees.** Fees were increased last year and do not generate the revenue needed to support current services. Establishing fees to meet service costs would result in excessive fees and an increased number of individuals choosing not to comply with the licensing requirements.

**13. What about the small retailer who sells a limited amount of dog and cat food? Will there be an exemption or an administrative fee received for filing? \_\_\_\_\_**

This is still under study.

**14. Is there a clear need for additional revenue? What is Animal Control's budget? \_\_\_\_\_**

Yes, additional revenue is needed to bring basic services to an acceptable level. Each workday, the Division receives hundreds of inquiries and requests for services. There are only twelve (12) Animal Control Officers to respond to all field calls in the county and only a limited number of staff to respond to phone inquiries. Every day the Division receives comments and complaints that response is not fast enough, that phone wait time is too long, or that the Division doesn't have enough people to meet all the needs of the community.

The Division's 1998-1999 annual budget was \$2.86 million, which includes \$1.66 million in revenue from licenses and other fees and \$1.2 million from the general fund.

**15. If 100% of dog and cat owners licensed their pets, would Multnomah County Animal Control Division be adequately funded? \_\_\_\_\_**

No. If every dog and cat owner in the County licensed their animal for three years at a time, the Division would generate annual license revenue of approximately \$2.5 million. Adoptions, owner redemption fees, and miscellaneous fees generate approximately \$246,000 per year. Fee revenue would not fund the current operation or expanded services to meet public demand.

**16. Is it appropriate or fair for dog and cat owners to bare the sole responsibility for funding Animal Control when the whole community benefits from the services provided? \_\_\_\_\_**

There are different opinions on this. Some people believe everyone should help fund Animal Control. But people who do not own pets can claim that if there were no dogs or cats in the County, there would be no need for any of the services provided by Animal Control.

**17. Will there be an exemption for prescription pet food? \_\_\_\_\_**

Yes. If the food can be purchased only with a veterinarian's prescription, it will not be taxed under this proposal.

**18. Is the tax going to be charged on horse feed, fish food, etc.? \_\_\_\_\_**

No. The tax will be charged on dog and cat food, only.

**19. Will any revenue received from this proposal be given to any other animal care agency? \_\_\_\_\_**

No. The proposed ordinance would require revenue to be used by Multnomah County Animal Control programs only. It is conceivable, however, that Animal Control could contract with another animal care agency for selected programs or services.

**20. Will dog and cat facilities and pet stores still be inspected? Will there be a facility license fee? \_\_\_\_\_**

Yes. Dog and cat facilities and pet stores will still be inspected to ensure the health and welfare of the animals is maintained. There will, however, be no facility license fee.

**21. Will "general fund" money still be used to fund Multnomah County Animal Control? \_\_\_\_\_**

No. Under the proposal, general fund revenue (which comes from property taxes) will be eliminated after the eighteen-month start-up period. Animal Control services will be entirely funded by the dog and cat food tax, adoption fees, redemption fees, and Notices of Infraction and Citation fees.

**22. What is the guarantee Animal Control will stick to its original mission and not become an over-funded bureaucracy? \_\_\_\_\_**

The budget process authorizing funding for Animal Control programs and services and the expenditures for these services currently includes two citizen advisory boards: the Citizen Budget Advisory Committee and the Animal Control Advisory Committee. This citizen oversight will continue. Additionally, the elected Board of County Commissioners will continue to be the final authority, approving or denying expenditures.

**23. Does the County have correct estimates for the number of unlicensed pets and the predicted amount of revenue the proposal would raise? \_\_\_\_\_**

Yes. 55% of the dogs and cats in the County are not licensed. And, based on the amount of dog and cat food sold in Multnomah County, approximately \$4 million will be raised with the 5% tax.



(M501)  
**MULTNOMAH COUNTY OREGON**  
Department of Environmental Services  
1600 SE 190th Ave.  
Portland, OR 97233

## Opportunities for Public Comment

We appreciate the many comments about the dog and cat food tax proposal we have received from citizens. Several comments have led to changes in the proposed ordinance. If you have questions, comments, or wish to share your views about the proposal, here are several more opportunities you have to participate:

**August 2: Public Hearing with the Board of County Commissioners**

6 pm to 8 pm at Multnomah County Courthouse, Room 602, 1021 SW Fourth Ave., Portland. Residents can give testimony. Multnomah Community Television will broadcast the hearing live on Channel 30 with rebroadcasts August 4 at 7 pm; August 6 at 8 pm; August 11 at 6 pm; and August 14 at 6 pm.

**August 17: Public Workshop**

7 pm to 9 pm, Kaiser Permanente Town Hall, 3706 North Interstate Ave., Portland.

**August 23: Public Workshop**

7 pm to 9 pm, East Portland Community Center, 740 SE 106<sup>th</sup> Ave., Portland

Staff will be available at the public workshops to explain the proposal, answer questions, and seek your comments.

The Board of County Commissioners will consider the proposed ordinance in September. There will be additional opportunities for public comment at that time.

For more information, please contact: Multnomah County Public Affairs office at (503) 736-6800;  
fax (503) 736-6801; email: [pao.org@co.multnomah.or.us](mailto:pao.org@co.multnomah.or.us)



# Multnomah Community Television

## SINGLE PROGRAM CABLECAST REQUEST

For MCTV Staff Produced or Acquired Programs Only

Date 7/14/99

Start Use Only  C  MCTV  TVH  D  MCTV

Title (please print) MULT. Co. Commissioners. Pet Secretary Program Number 50082.000

Description (for publication in TV Host) \_\_\_\_\_

Length 2:00:00 Earliest date program can be played 8/2/99 Don't play after (if dated material) 1 1  
Hrs Min Sec (LIVE)

Staff person submitting program L. Berger

Program produced  by MCTV OR  Locally OR  Outside metro area by (if not MCTV) \_\_\_\_\_

Comments \_\_\_\_\_

LIVE Day 8/2/99 Date 1 1 Time 6:00 AM  PM Channel \_\_\_\_\_

Studio  Remote From MCC  Satellite Name \_\_\_\_\_ Channel \_\_\_\_\_

TAPED Number of plays & Channel(s) desired \_\_\_\_\_

Circle preferred cablecast days/times Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat ANY Morn Afternoon Eve Late Night ANY

Cablecast Schedule (MCR use only) IF PCA Cooperates

Day	Date	Time	Ch
<u>Mon</u>	<u>8/2</u>	<u>6 pm</u>	<u>30</u>
<u>Wed</u>	<u>8/4</u>	<u>7 pm</u>	<u>30</u>
<u>Fri</u>	<u>8/6</u>	<u>8 pm</u>	<u>30</u>
<u>Wed</u>	<u>8/11</u>	<u>6 pm</u>	<u>30</u>
<u>Sat</u>	<u>8/14</u>	<u>6 pm</u>	<u>30</u>

1 1  
Producer Notified

Notified by \_\_\_\_\_

July 30, 1999

MULTNOMAH COUNTY COMMISSION  
 99 AUG -2 PM 1:38  
 MULTNOMAH COUNTY  
 OREGON



The Honorable Beverly Stein, Chair  
 Multnomah County Commission  
 1120 SW 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue, 15<sup>th</sup> floor  
 Portland, OR 97204

Dear Ms. Stein:

Over the past few weeks, representatives from The Iams Company have collected information about Multnomah County's proposal to impose a 5%-8% sales tax on dog and cat food. We've talked to several groups in the Portland area – including veterinarians, pet supply store retailers, pet supply distributors, animal shelter directors, non-profit groups involved with working dogs, and dog & cat owners.

We believe the proposed tax is a bad idea because:

- **The pet food sales tax is unfair to many segments of pet owners.**  
 The sales tax paid per pet would vary based on each dog/cat's size and diet. Owners feeding therapeutic foods (prescribed by veterinarians) would be hard hit. The tax unfairly singles out dog and cat owners to pay for services that benefit all residents in Multnomah County. Low-income, elderly, and disabled residents would face an extra burden.
- **County businesses will be hurt if this sales tax is imposed on pet owners.**  
 Small pet supply stores and other retailers will lose sales revenue because county residents will shop for pet food outside Multnomah County. The county may create a cumbersome bureaucracy to audit pet food sales. Retailers will be forced to carry the burden of tax collection for the county.
- **The proposed tax is bad for the health and well being of dogs and cats.**  
 Eliminating the current licensing fees will discourage pet spays/neuters and regular vaccinations. Increased pet food prices will cause some pet owners to feed table scraps resulting in poor nutrition for dogs and cats.

Our mission at The Iams Company is to enhance the well being of dogs and cats by providing world class quality foods. We believe this proposed sales tax will harm pets in the Portland area, and we urge you to drop the tax proposal and review alternative ways to manage animal control issues in Multnomah County. Thank you for considering our point of view.

Sincerely,

  
 Bryan Brown  
 Director of Communications

Cc: Brian Connolly, T&K Products / Portland; John Sieler, Iams Co. / Portland  
 7250 Poe Avenue  
 Dayton, OH 45414-5801  
 (937) 898-7387

*Aug 2 1999*

Dear County Commissioners,

I find it difficult to go to the hearing tonight and what I have to say is short and simple and perhaps an e-mail will suffice.

It is a very good idea to have the purchasers of animal pet food pay some of the costs of animal control through this surcharge. Many cats in my neighborhood are unlicensed. Although their owners provide food for them and medical care (usually) they wander freely, destroying the birds on my property which I have developed as a tiny refuge. Because they do not license, they are not pulling their weight in providing services for the thousands of unwanted animals which we must care for, adopt out or (unfortunately) euthanize.

This kind of surcharge is not a new idea. "Teaming for Wildlife" is a program suggested for providing a non-game wildlife program funded with a surcharge on outdoor recreational equipment. While I would much prefer a general-fund appropriation, the chances of getting one aren't good and the surcharge seems to be the next best. It is fair, it will provide a good deal of money, and it is not too burdensome.

I would like my remarks to be included in the hearing record if you admit e-mail.

Sincerely yours,

*P. Sydney Herbert*  
P.Sydney Herbert  
5125 SW Dosch Rd  
Portland, OR 97201

503-244-4415

*your e-mail site is not functioning  
so I am sending this by fax.  
PSH*

CLERK OF  
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
99 AUG - 2 PM 3:40  
MULTI-NOMAIL COUNTY  
OREGON

Jean M. Ridings

BOARD OF  
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

99 AUG -2 PM 4:12

21510 NE Blue Lake Road  
Interlachen, Oregon 97024-9790  
(503) 666-6433MULTNOMAH COUNTY  
OREGON

August 2, 1999

TO: Board of Commissioners

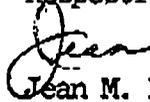
RE: Pet Food Tax

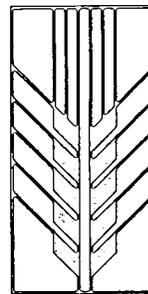
Please add my name to the list of folks who appreciate the idea of a tax on pet food. I have lived on Blue Lake Road for over thirty years and as we are across from the vacant portion of the Park, we have been witness to many, many very cruel acts by people dumping their unwanted animals off to fend for themselves. In this process we have become the clearing house for many, many four legged visitors, since we cannot turn anyone of them down.

During this lengthy time, I have taken many poor, tired and sick animals to the Troutdale Animal Shelter. They have been wonderful and caring. It is a very hard and discouraging job but the staff always appears helpful and sad as I am to be there again with yet another unwanted pet. They have always worked very hard with very little and I am aware of their dire straits over the years. I believe this is a very inovative idea and will give them an opportunity to increase their services and become the agency which is so needed and do the great job they all want to do for the community.

I cannot end this without telling you the story of when my heart was broken, and I became the "lost" animals advocate. As children, we had a beautiful German Police dog. One day, across from the entrance to the Park, I noticed a regal one who resembled our childhood pet - just lying there staring at the gate. As I walked every day, he remained in the very same spot - only to move away as anyone approached him with water and food. He would NOT accept any offering from any of us and eventually died RIGHT THERE - no doubt where his owner, master had told him to stay. Maybe we won't have to watch such an episode ever again with EVERYONE becoming more responsible (through the Tax) whether they want to or not!

Respectfully yours

  
Jean M. Ridings  
(Critic person)



JONATHAN SCHLUETER  
# 1 8/2/99

200 S. W. Market Street  
Suite 1730  
Portland, OR 97201  
Fax 503 / 227-0059  
503 / 227-0234

## Statement In Opposition To Pet Food "Surcharge"

Presented To The  
Multnomah County Commission  
Monday, August 2, 1999

By  
Jonathan F. Schlueter  
Executive Vice President  
Pacific Northwest Grain and Feed Association  
Also Representing  
American Feed Industry Association

### Introduction

Pacific Northwest Grain and Feed Association is a non-profit regional trade association, with headquarters in Portland, Oregon, which represents nearly 250 commercial grain elevator companies, animal feed and flour milling operations, and grain exporting firms operating in the 4 Northwest states of Washington, Oregon, Idaho and Montana.

Within the State of Oregon, our organization serves 40 member companies, operating 90 facilities in 17 counties, including Multnomah. Given the size and geographic diversity of this industry, our organization has a clear and significant interest in the County's proposed "surcharge" for dog and pet foods, and very much appreciates the opportunity to share these views with members of the Multnomah County Commission.

This statement is being prepared on behalf of our national affiliate trade organization, the American Feed Industry Association (AFIA) with headquarters in Arlington, Virginia. AFIA represents commercial feed manufacturers nationwide, and shares the concerns and uncertainties about Multnomah County's proposed feed surcharge, outlined below.

### A Summary Of The Key Points Contained In This Testimony

The members of Pacific Northwest Grain and Feed Association and American Feed Industry Association offer the following points and observations about the proposed "surcharge" on pet foods sold in Multnomah County:

1. A "surcharge" by any other name is still a tax. And a surcharge on the sale of a commercial product is a thinly-veiled sales tax, which is an anathema to the people of Oregon who have repeatedly rejected sales tax plans in at least 4 statewide ballot initiatives.
2. Scrapping the county's licensing program for a pet food surcharge unfairly burdens the manufacturers, distributors and retailers of pet food products---and their customers---in funding the entire animal control programs of Multnomah County.
3. A proposed "surcharge" on pet food sales in Multnomah County unreasonably burdens and disadvantages retailers who would compete with untaxed retailers in neighboring Washington or Clackamas Counties. Is the desire to avoid sales taxes significant? Just ask any merchant at Jantzen Beach Center how much of their business depends on sales tax-stressed Washington residents.

4. A "surcharge" on pet food is regressive, and punitive to fixed income or low income pet-owners most in need of the companionship or protection provided by their pets. The current licensing program allows reduced licensing fees for these residents and their pets.
5. The County's proposed surcharge on pet food products does nothing to promote, nor improve, the much-needed spay and neuter programs to control numbers of abandoned or unwanted dogs and cats in this county. The current licensing program promotes responsible pet ownership by providing reduced licensing fees for pets that have been spayed or neutered.
6. The proposed "surcharge" on the sales of pet food products promises to shift the County's enforcement priorities away from needed animal control functions, and replace it with auditing and retail compliance programs to insure that pet food suppliers and retailers in Multnomah County are collecting their 5% surcharge.
7. What is needed in Multnomah County is better compliance and enforcement programs to support the animal control programs already in place, not a pet food "surcharge." The County's own estimates of the numbers of unlicensed dogs and cats are based on 10 year old survey data that compared county residency with the numbers of pet licenses issued. Given the population growth and mobility of today's population, can the County support future programs based on 1990's estimates and guess work?
8. But even the County's own estimates of the numbers of unlicensed dogs and cats suggests a far more serious problem lurking out there among unlicensed pets that have not been properly vaccinated against rabies, distemper or other diseases. Speaking as a resident and business owner---who does not personally own either a dog or cat---the potential outbreak of rabies should be seen as a far bigger concern for Multnomah County residents, than is the number of unlicensed pets.

The County's proposal is based on the notion that a large---but uncertain---percentage of dogs and cats living here are not being properly licensed by their owners. But by the County's own estimates, 1998-99 budget requirements for the animal control programs could be met if pet licensing was promoted through more aggressive enforcement, and better compliance with existing regulations.

Imposing a surcharge on pet food sets a precedent for imposing similar sales tax schemes on all sorts of products, that would enable Multnomah County to finance its public services in all sorts of creative ways. A parallel example would demand that unlicensed autos in the state could be reduced by "surcharges" on all automobiles sold or traded in our state, or:

- A tax on fresh seafood sold in local grocery stores to help pay for endangered salmon and trout restoration efforts in the Sandy and Willamette Rivers, and their tributaries;
- A \$500. tax on firearms sold in Multnomah County to pay for the law enforcement efforts borne by the Sheriff's Department;
- A county tax on all glass, paper and plastic packaging materials sold in Multnomah County to help pay for recycling programs and land fill costs;
- A tax on plumbing fixtures to help finance the installation of sewer lines, water treatment plants and public works projects, needed to keep pace with a growing population;

**Conclusion:**

Multnomah County has a problem.

No one can deny that there are too many unlicensed dogs and cats in our county and communities, or that we need to find ways to control their numbers. But the pet food "surcharge" is the wrong approach to dealing with these problems:

- rather than strengthen the county's enforcement efforts, to reduce unlicensed pets, the county is instead focusing on new and low-profile ways to fleccc the pockets of businesses and pet-owning consumers.
- Instead of promoting and improving spay and neuter programs which foster cooperation and encourage pet owners to control the numbers of dogs and cats, the County's time and resources will be spent auditing grocers and retail distributors, and making sure they are keeping accurate tabs on pet food tax revenues.
- And rather than offer the public a revenue plan which respects the income needs of seniors, fixed-income, or low income residents, the County proposes instead to tax the companionship and security, and brand as a "luxury"---these people's desire to have a pet in their homes.

Given these limitations and concerns, Commissioners can reasonably conclude that imposing a "sales tax" on pet food is not the solution, and unjustly burdens one segment of the business community in financing an uncertain solution to an ill-defined problem.

For additional information, or clarification of any of the views and observations contained in this statement, we invite Commission members to contact:

Jonathan Schlueter

Pacific Northwest Grain and Feed Assn  
200 S.W. Market Street, Suite 1730  
Portland, Oregon  
97201  
(503) 227-0234

Kevin Hoepkor

American Feed Industry Assn  
1500 Wilson Boulevard, Suite 1100  
Arlington, Virginia  
22209  
(703) 524-0810

MICHAEL TWAIN  
#11 8/2/99

## **Dog and Cat Food Targeted Sales Tax**

### **Public Hearing with the County Commissioners**

August 2, 1999

#### **NOT ENDORSED BY THE ANIMAL CONTROL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

It has been widely stated that the Multnomah County Animal Control Advisory Committee has endorsed the Dog and Cat Sales Tax. This is false. Betsy Brumm updated the committee for 10 minutes one morning that she was working on a proposal to do this. The sales tax has never been discussed, voted or endorsed by the committee.

#### **HOTEL/MOTEL TAX AND PET FOOD SALES TAX ARE NOT COMPARABLE**

Hotel/ Motel tax is in place to collect funds from *non-residents* who use county facilities and resources.

The pet food tax further taxes Multnomah County citizens for services that they have already been taxed for via property taxes.

#### **UNFAIR TO DOG AND CAT OWNERS**

In the document, "Questions and Answers – About Multnomah County's Proposed Dog and Cat Food Tax", question 16 on page 4 asks the question, "Is it appropriate or fair for dog and cat owners to bare the sole responsibility for funding Animal Control when the whole community benefits from the services provided?"

The question itself is the answer. The question states, "the whole community benefits from the services provided." Therefore, **it is not appropriate or fair** for the dog and cat owners to bare the sole responsibility for the funding.

#### **THE PET INDUSTRY SUPPORTS FUNDING A WELL-RUN APPROPRIATELY BUDGETED ANIMAL CONTROL AGENCY.**

Oregon Pet Industry opposes the inefficiency and the unfairness of a pet food sales tax. The industry does, however, support the need for animal control services and funding it at an appropriate level by other means than the dog and cat food sales tax.

#### **ASK THE VOTERS TO APPROVE A TAX LEVY**

If the county does not have enough money to fund animal control, then the problem should be referred to the voters in the form of a proposed tax levy. This way the voters of the county can decide the funding of animal control's budget.

*Oregon Pet Industry Association – PO Box 14707 – Portland, OR 97293 – PH: 503-239-4266 – Fax: 503-239-4268*

# PETITION

JUDY WILKINS  
SPEAKER # 22  
8/2/99

To Multnomah County Commission

We, the undersigned, strongly urge the Multnomah County Commission to reject the proposal to impose a sales tax on the purchase of pet food. The proposed sales tax on pet food is unfair, is bad for pets, will hurt pet owners – especially those on fixed incomes – and will be too costly to administer.

While we applaud the county's interest in dealing with critical financial issues facing the Animal Control Division, weakening pet licensing and taxing pet food sales is not the answer. Instead, we urge you to examine services provided by the Animal Control Division, improve efficiencies of the agency, continue the traditional commitment of General Fund resources and enhance the licensing program.

Animal Control services are important priorities protecting the public health and public safety of all county residents. Funding Animal Control should not be the responsibility of the county's dog and cat owners alone.

Date	Name	Address	Phone	E-mail
7-28-99	SHEILA R. FARRIS	1019 SW 10 <sup>TH</sup> AVE #206	241-5490	OSJAND.COM THEOWINASE
7-28-99	Judy Wilkins	1019 SW 10 <sup>TH</sup> AVE #105	227-3504	
7/28/99	Michael Perna	1019 SW 10 <sup>TH</sup> #114	224-3559	
7/28/99	Nanda Holman	1019 SW P <sup>TH</sup>	525-7911	
7/29/99	Eck Motta	2405 W. PORTSMOUTH	285-2097	
7/30/99	Mary Kowal Duggan	1019 SW 10 <sup>TH</sup> #513	<del>274-0453</del>	
7/30/99	Theresa Hayes	1019 SW 10 <sup>TH</sup> AVE	274-0453	
7/30/99	Patricia Presland	1019 SW 10 <sup>TH</sup> #505 Portland	OR 97205	
7-30-99	Michael AYERS	10124 SE Reedway PORT OR 97266	503- 788-5796	
7-31-99	Mary Hemerson	1019 S.W. 10 <sup>TH</sup> #409 PORTLAND, OR 97205		
7/31/99	Barbara Eddy	1019 SW 10 <sup>TH</sup> #403 Portland Ore		
7/31	William Fields	1019 SW - #10 Ave PORTLAND ORE 97205		
7/31/99	LARRY CASEY	1019 SW 10TH AVE PORTLAND, OR #207		
8/2/99	Linda Carl	1784 SE Sand Ave. Hillsboro OR 97123		

# PETITION

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Date	Name	Address	Phone	E-mail
7/29/99	Csleen Seivola	PTL 97215 4519 SE Lincoln	—	
7/29/99	Lynne Larson	PTL 97220 3135 NE 89 <sup>th</sup>	503-259-5333	
7/29/99	Monty England	#204 12435 SW Pioneer Ln	579-7850	
7/29/99	[Signature]	2930 SW 25 <sup>th</sup>	977-6568	
7/29/99	SCORBY John	1019 S.W. 10 <sup>th</sup>		
7/29/99	Candice Dillabough	#2415 1019 S.W. 10 <sup>th</sup> Ave	248-5661	
7-30-99	[Signature]	1411 SW 14 <sup>th</sup> AVE	222-1254	
7-30-99	[Signature]	1011 SW Jefferson	228-3839	
7/30/99	Lilly Sudar	4025 NE 91 <sup>st</sup> PDX	256-0100	--
7/30/99	Jiakuntika	5714 S G S I ST PDX		

*Calhoun*  
*Larson*



# PETITION

To Multnomah County Commission

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Animal Control services are important priorities protecting the public health and public safety of all county residents. Funding Animal Control should not be the responsibility of the county's dog and cat owners alone.

Date	Name	Address	Phone	E-mail
8/2	Jill Timms	3321 SE SALMON	239-8525	—
2 Aug	Kristin Bergardus	3736 N Melrose Dr	281-7533	—
8/2	Elissa Jona	5330 NE 3rd Pl	493-4230	—
8-2	Cassidie Mitchell	5321 NE 9th	287-4140	N/A
8-2-99	Jorge Araque	827 NE 99 <sup>th</sup> Ave	251-1959	—
8/2/99	Jennifer Fleury	2104 NE Wygant St	528-1381	
8-2-99	Dee Whittaker	7521 S.E. WEAVER LANE	650-2664	
8-2-99	Melinda Liscu	18282 Ardwin Pl. L.O.	638-3852	
8-2-99	Nancy Jeffrey	3953 NE 10 <sup>th</sup>	287-3347	--

Phil Dreyer  
SPEAKER #28  
8/2/99

## NO SALES TAX LEAGUE

742 SE 39th Ave. Portland, 97214 231 8587

TO Multnomah County Board of Commissioners  
FROM: Phil Dreyer, President, No Sales Tax League of Oregon  
SUBJECT: Proposed sales tax on dog and cat food

The proposed sales tax is unfair to Oregonians in that it is a regressive tax which forces low income people to pay a larger portion of their income on taxes than the wealthy.

Mankind has had a close relationship with dogs and cats for some thousands of years. The companionship and warmth is irreplaceable to those who have lost loved ones. It should not be discouraged.

The proposed sales tax is unfair to senior citizens. The Oregon constitution prohibits taxing social security income, But for senior citizens whose income is almost entirely social security the sales tax would, in effect, tax their social security.

The proposed sales tax is unfair to citizens who depend on a pet for security. Statistics show that the best protection against burglars is a barking dog.

The proposed sales tax is unfair to the blind who depend on seeing-eye dogs for locomotion. And there is a growing trend of hearing-ear dogs for deaf people who cannot hear their doorbell.

The proposed sales tax is unfair to Multnomah County merchants who face competition from Clackamas and Washington County merchants who are not burdened with adding this charge to their pet food customers.

The proposed sales tax is unfair to merchants and veterinarians. A study by the small business administration in 1986 showed that the small reimbursement for forcing a merchants (and veterinarians) to become tax collectors added overhead costs for clerking, bookkeeping, and accounting at twice the rate of reimbursement.

To ask law abiding citizens to pay a sales tax to compensate for costs caused by pet owners who do not obey the laws on licensing, etc. is to hurt the honest citizens to make up for dishonesty.

If the present licensing system does not generate enough money to compensate for animal control costs we should go after the law breakers by doubling or tripling the penalties for breaking the law - make the punishment fit the crime. In fact, doubling or tripling the fines for violations of our pet laws will automatically encourage people to abide by them.

If you insist on going ahead with this regressive tax, the least you could do is refer it to a vote so that the public can express their opinion at the ballot box.

A referendum could be forced with 8,468 multnomah County residents' signatures.

Phil Dreyer  
Chair

BOARD OF  
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

99 AUG -2 PM 8:38

MULTNOMAH COUNTY  
OREGON

FAX Transmittal – 1 page total

August 2, 1999

TO: Multnomah County Commissioners  
FR: Nina Johnson  
RE: Support for Tax on Pet Food to Fund Animal Control Services

I had hoped to be at the hearing this evening, but a small back injury I sustained this weekend prevents me from being physically present.

I am not part of any organized group. But I am a pet owner – my husband and I have three indoor cats. When I first read about the tax on pet food to fund animal control services, I thought it was a great idea from both a policy and practical standpoint. I continue to have that opinion.

I was amazed at the storm of protest over the tax, and want to communicate clearly to you that this is one pet owner who supports the tax.

Thank you for your kind attention.

Nina Johnson  
6585 SW Parkhill Drive  
Portland, OR 97201  
245-7416



BOARD OF  
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

99 AUG -3 PM 12:02

MULTNOMAH COUNTY  
OREGON

August 3, 1999

Honorable Bev Stein  
Chair  
Multnomah County Commission  
900 S.W. 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue, #2000  
Portland, OR 97204

RE: Multnomah County Pet Food Sales Tax Proposal

Dear Commissioner Stein:

On behalf of 7-Eleven, Inc. and its 38 stores in Multnomah County, I am writing to urge you to oppose the recommendation from the Department of Environmental Services that a "surcharge" be assessed against dog and cat food to generate revenues to be used for animal control purposes.

In our view, there are several fatal flaws to this proposal:

- A tax on pet food sales is inherently unfair. This is a regressive tax that will single out pet owners to pay for a service that is of benefit to all county residences.
- Businesses within the county will be harmed by this tax. Local businesses will lose sales because pet owners will simply make their pet food purchases at retailers outside the county lines. There is absolutely no way the county can prevent this from happening.
- No matter what it is called, this is a sales tax. Oregonians have been steadfast and consistent in rejecting the concept of a sales tax. Locally elected officials should pay attention to the voter's wishes and refrain from enacting industry-specific sales taxes.
- This tax proposal will actually be bad for pets. Eliminating the current license fees will arguably result in fewer vaccinations and less spaying/neutering of pets.

Please reject this ill-advised proposal. It is unfair and will create more problems than it purports to solve.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Grant Allen".

Grant Allen  
Market Manager  
7-Eleven, Inc.

cc: Commissioner Diane Linn  
Commissioner Serena Cruz  
Commissioner Lisa Naito  
Commissioner Sharron Kelley

**BOGSTAD Deborah L**

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**From:** CHAIR Mult  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 03, 1999 11:12 AM  
**To:** SCHOLLES Rhys R; PULLEN Mike J; BOGSTAD Deborah L  
**Subject:** FW: No "Sales Tax" on Pet Food!

-----Original Message-----

**From:** stavros@agora.rdrop.com [mailto:stavros@agora.rdrop.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, August 02, 1999 6:19 PM  
**To:** Beverly Stein  
**Subject:** No "Sales Tax" on Pet Food!

I am 100% against this idea. We have voted again and again against sales taxes, which is exactly what a tax on pet food would be.

--

Sincerely,

Steven K. Culliton  
124 SE 127th  
Portland, OR, 97233-1030  
(503) 254-0424