



MAYOR ROBERT GARCIA
CITY OF LONG BEACH

April 29, 2019

The Honorable Ling Ling Chang
California State Senate
State Capitol, Room 4062
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Support for SB 64 (Chang): Dogs and Cats: Microchip Implants

Dear Senator Chang:

On behalf of the City of Long Beach (City), I write to support Senate Bill 64 (Chang). This legislation requires all dogs and cats be microchipped prior to adoption. As a City that is committed to microchipping pets preceding adoption or reunification, Long Beach supports SB 64.

On May 4, 2010, the Long Beach City Council directed the City Manager to develop a funding and implementation plan for microchipping pets within the Long Beach Animal Care Shelter (Shelter) with the goal of increasing owner-pet reunification and reducing euthanasia. As a result, the City has been committed to microchipping pets preceding adoption or reunification for almost 10 years. This strategy, in combination with other policy changes, has reduced pet admissions at the Shelter by 49 percent; euthanasia rates decreased by 82 percent; and adoptions of all animals increased by 78 percent. Overall, changes to the City's animal care program, including mandatory microchipping, increased adoption or reunification of cats and dogs by 52 percent over the last 10 years. As of April 2019, the City is on track to achieve 84 percent and 94 percent adoption or reunification rates for cats and dogs, respectively.

SB 64 proposes to require all dogs and cats be microchipped prior to adoption. With the success we have seen at the Long Beach Animal Care Shelter, the City wholeheartedly supports this proposal. Standardized microchipping will improve animal management in California by increasing reunification.

Given these reasons, the City of Long Beach is proud to support SB 64 (Chang).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert Garcia".

Mayor Robert Garcia
City of Long Beach

cc: The Honorable Speaker Anthony Rendon, State Assembly
The Honorable Tom Umberg, State Senate, 34th District
The Honorable Steven Bradford, State Senate, 35th District
The Honorable Mike Gipson, State Assembly, 64th District
The Honorable Patrick O'Donnell, State Assembly, 70th District
Assembly Committee on Health