

SPRING 2014



International Society for Animal Rights

Law and Education Serving Animals

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President's Message

Dear Friends,

Since ISAR's founding in 1959 our organization has not wavered in our commitment to improving the lives of animals through legal, legislative and educational efforts. The latter, public education about animal rights, both theoretical and practical, has long been a primary activity of ISAR, and will continue to be an important part of our programs.

Accordingly, it is with great pleasure that I formally announce the publication of ISAR's comprehensive *Prohibition of Retail Commercial Sale of Dogs and Cats* Monograph and Model Statute. Researched and written by ISAR's chairman, Henry Mark Holzer (Professor Emeritus, Brooklyn Law School) both can be found on our website, www.isaronline.org. They are a powerful resource for animal advocates who seek to maximize their chance of getting prohibitory legislation introduced and enacted.

For years ISAR has supported municipal pet sale bans—as *ends* in themselves (ending the local retail companion animal trade), and as a *means* to reduce the incentive for puppy and kitten mills to produce a seemingly endless flow of canines and felines.

ISAR supporters who share this goal need only find a legislator (on any level of government—village, town, city, county, state)—who will introduce ISAR's *Model Statute Prohibiting Retail Sales of Dogs and Cats* and fight like a tiger (no pun intended) for its enactment.

On a related front, since modest beginnings in 1992, ISAR's International Homeless Animals' Day has consistently grown in size and content each year thanks to the worldwide participation of other organizations that provide a wide variety of activities to educate communities, legislators and the media of the urgent need for companion animal sterilization.

ISAR's International Homeless Animals' Day® 2013 was commemorated for the twenty-second consecutive year on August 17th with Candlelight Vigil observances in more than 25 U.S. states, Canada and involvement in at least 24 foreign locations including Belgium, Belize, Bermuda, Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, Fiji, France, Honduras, Hungary, Kuwait, Malaysia, Mexico, Nicaragua, Pakistan, Panama, Philippines, Portugal, Singapore, South Africa, Switzerland, Tanzania, Thailand, and Venezuela.

Because of the annual successful growth of International Homeless Animals' Day “Candlelight Vigil” observances, we're pleased to reveal our newly created International Homeless Animals' Day website dedicated entirely to these annual events. As International Homeless Animals' Day 2014 approaches, ISAR will regularly update our new website with event information, articles, press releases, photos, and more! To view ISAR's new International Homeless Animals' Day website, please visit: www.homelessanimalsday.org.

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Prohibit Retail Sales of Dogs and Cats

When ISAR promulgated our *Dog Breeding, Facilitation and Sales Regulatory Statute* we were well aware that it would be unpopular not only with dog breeders, facilitators and commercial retail sales outlets, aiders and abettors, and others complicit in the dog and cat trade, but also with other animal protection organizations.

Our expectation proved correct, doubtless because our Model Statute challenged the root premises of commercial production of dogs and cats, from their conception to retail sale.

Many individuals and organizations who should have known better, and from whom we expected more understanding and support, have opposed ISAR's Model Statute. (The nature and quality of their objections lack consistency, let alone substance.)

On the other hand, some of ISAR's supporters have argued for an outright ban on retail sales of dogs and cats, and have sought our help in making the argument in support of that goal.

Accordingly, ISAR's recent Monograph, *Prohibition of Retail Commercial Sale of Dogs and Cats* (see Table of Contents below) and Model Statute is a brief in support of that goal.

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To keep our supporters abreast of our ongoing programs, ISAR communicates our current activities to thousands of people throughout the world by means of every traditional and modern method possible: postal newsletter, e-newsletter, website, blog, Twitter, Internet videos and online communities such as Facebook, and YouTube. Utilizing many of these online methods, ISAR recently launched our new semi-monthly program entitled, *How You Can Help Animals!*

Generated through our e-newsletter/blog, *How You Can Help Animals!* provides our supporters and others throughout the world with ammunition needed to fight our many animal protection battles. Some of the ammunition ISAR has recently provided in our e-newsletter/blog include the titles, *Another Municipal Adoption of Mandatory Spay/Neuter*, *ISAR's Model Spay/Neuter Tax Deduction Statute Parts I and II*, *Campaign for U.N. Spay/Neuter Postage Stamp*, *Campaign to End Simulated Abuse of Animals in Entertainment and Product Sales*, *ISAR Volunteers*, *Do Not Sanction the Existence of Zoos Part 1 and Part 2*, and *Support Anti-Devocalization Legislation*.

Supporters can further help animals by forwarding ISAR's *How You Can Help Animals!* e-newsletter/blog to individuals and organizations who share ISAR's goals and believe that, through law and education serving animals, together we can ease their suffering and promote their rights.

There has never been a better time than now to make a positive difference in the lives of companion animals!

ISAR is most grateful to you, our supporters and friends. You are the most powerful allies the animals have. Without your financial support, we would not have the resources to wage our battles on behalf of animals.

Sincerely,

Susan Dapsis

Susan Dapsis, President

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Since ISAR launched our *How You Can Help Animals!* Education program, we've received positive feedback from our supporters. For instance, after we published *Campaign for a U.N. Spay/Neuter Postage Stamp*, in addition to signing ISAR's petition for issuance of such a stamp Judy B. of Topeka, KS, had this to say, "A United Nations Spay/Neuter Postage Stamp would be an excellent way in which to educate the public-at-large about pet overpopulation." Jessica B. of Ocala, FL, also signed ISAR's petition and said, "We domesticated cats and dogs and [then] have been very irresponsible to them. It is time to fix this, literally!" Marilyn E., of Tacoma, WA, stated, "This stamp would alert the world about the plight of homeless animals and the importance of spaying/neutering cats and dogs to combat the population explosion of cats and dogs everywhere." ISAR could not agree more! Also as

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STOP DEVOCALIZATION NOW

In 2012, ISAR launched our Stop Devocalization Now program to enlighten the public about the barbaric practice of surgically cutting the vocal cords of canines (and occasionally felines), and to provide animal rights activists with the tools to seek legislative prohibition of devocalization, a procedure virtually always performed for the convenience of the animals' custodians not for the benefit of the dog or cat.

Since the program's inception, ISAR created a one-stop educational website aimed at exposing and prohibiting the barbaric practice of dog and cat devocalization.

We have communicated our efforts to thousands of our supporters emphasizing the Stop Devocalization Now Project through our quarterly USPS newsletter, blog, e-newsletter, twitter, and social networks. ISAR custom bumper stickers emphasize the urgent need to Stop Devocalization Now, and we continue to distribute them free of charge to any one who contacts us.

In addition, ISAR discussed devocalization in an interview on "Animals Today Radio," as well as interviewing Dr. Nicholas Dodman—world renowned animal behaviorist, and bestselling author—about devocalization.

ISAR advertised in Best Friends Magazine, as well as reached out to various political action committees concerning the Stop Devocalization Now Project.

In the name of public safety we solicited interest from the Fraternal Order of Police. Indeed, ISAR continuously seeks out elected officials interested in drafting legislation against the practice of devocalization and we submit our model anti-devocalization legislation to those who may need a how-to-do-it guide.

ISAR welcomes the aid of volunteers to assist us in our campaign to Stop Devocalization Now! If you are interested in joining ISAR in this important crusade please visit our website for more information on how you can help (<http://www.stopdevocalizationnow.org/volunteers.html>.)

ISAR's Outdoor Advertising Campaign



Outdoor advertising on billboards has consistently proven to be a relatively inexpensive yet powerfully effective means of communicating public service messages to large numbers of motorists. With ISAR's brightly colored billboards a spay/neuter message is sure to be seen.

ISAR's spay/neuter billboards are attention-grabbing, printed in full color and measure a standard 10'5" x 22'8". Over the years, ISAR's supporters have utilized our spay/neuter billboard campaign to promote shelter events, spay/neuter clinics, and International Homeless Animals' Day Candlelight Vigils. Each year, ISAR's billboards have been featured in multiple locations throughout the United States. ISAR offers many spay/neuter related designs, which are sold year-round, and can be viewed on our website www.isaronline.org.

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another result of ISAR's *Campaign for a U.N. Spay/Neuter Postage Stamp* E-Newsletter/Blog, Marc Selinger, writer for examiner.com, reported nationally on ISAR's efforts. His article can be read online here:

<http://www.examiner.com/article/spay-neuter-postal-stamp-urged-for-un>.

Among other recent feedback about *How You Can Help Animals!*, our *Model Spay/Neuter Tax Deduction Statute* garnered support from Nancy Y., of WV, who declared, "The wording in your model [produced by ISAR in the 1990's] is almost verbatim to Senate Bill No. 231 submitted to the West Virginia State Legislature in 2010. Delegate Mike Manypenny has agreed to introduce the same bill to our 2014 Legislature. And, just like our commercial breeders law and spay/neuter voucher program law that passed in 2013 after several attempts, this bill will continue to be re-introduced until we succeed. Good luck in your efforts—acquiring a federal law would certainly be more effective than being limited to the more progressive states."

ISAR's proposal for a spay/neuter tax deduction is so straightforward, and could make such an impact on the overpopulation problem, that there should be no lack of animal advocates who are willing to find a sympathetic legislator willing to carry ISAR's proposed statute or something similar in his or her legislative body. To see how easy it is to introduce ISAR's *Model Spay/Neuter Tax Deduction Statute* (and other of our Model Laws) visit our website: http://www.isaronline.org/isar_volunteers.html.

Please visit ISAR's website, www.isaronline.org, for further information on how to receive ISAR's e-newsletter/blog and become a part of ISAR's *How You Can Help Animals!*

Please Join Us for International Homeless Animals' Day® 2014

Be a part of something special and join ISAR for International Homeless Animals' Day 2014, which will be commemorated on Saturday, August 16th. Unite with animal advocates from around the globe to shed light on the tragedy of pet overpopulation and the spay/neuter solution.

International Homeless Animals' Day is a great opportunity for your organization, animal shelter, animal rescue, veterinary clinic or pet-friendly business to get the worthy recognition you deserve for your dedicated efforts to alleviate pet overpopulation.

Your participation in International Homeless Animals' Day 2014 will underscore the tremendous impact that your organization's solution-focused efforts have on saving the lives of homeless animals.

International Homeless Animals' Day observances provide an important opportunity to:

- Enlighten your community about the services you offer to the public.
- Raise much-needed funds to support your spay/neuter programs.
- Increase adoptions by showcasing your adoptable pets.
- Educate your community about the importance of spaying/neutering to alleviate pet overpopulation.

ISAR offers free International Homeless Animals' Day packets to all who are interested in coordinating an event, from modest to a large public gathering. Simply contact ISAR by mail, phone, fax or email for your free International Homeless Animals' Day planning packet. The informational material will assist you in organizing an effective observance, with suggestions for site selection, reaching target audiences, speakers, sample press releases, ISAR's proclamations, and much more.



Amigos Pro Animal AC in Mexico held three pet walk events and candlelight vigils in three cities for International Homeless Animals' Day 2013.

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