

TX-RPOA E-News

From RPOA Texas Outreach and
Responsible Pet Owners Alliance
"Animal welfare, not animal 'rights'
and, yes, there is a difference."
Permission granted to crosspost.

March 14, 2009

Texas Legislature

S.B. No. 1845

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

relating to the sterilization of dogs
and cats; providing a penalty.

<http://www.legis.state.tx.us/tlodocs/81R/billtext/html/SB01845I.htm>

REGARDING: SB 1845 by Van de Putte and
Companion Bill: HB 4277 by Menendez (identical):

E-mails are circulating with misleading information that seems to be creating a sense of panic from some who are contacting us. So we'll explain the process for those who are new to all this.

The Texas bills mandating sterilization of all dogs and cats (or the owner must purchase a \$300 permit) were filed on 3/11 and 3/13 respectively. The Senate bill has been "Filed" and "Received" by the Secretary of Senate. The House bill has only been "Filed" at this point. All bills can be found from the state's web site: www.capitol.state.tx.us from the search box. The horse just came out of the gate and we're at the very beginning of a very lengthy process. It will be hectic until this legislative session adjourns June 1st.

RPOA will issue bulletins at the appropriate time with all instructions. We'll have talking points on all bills so there's no need to worry. If there are questions, you can email rpoa@texas.net or call Jacque in our office (210) 822-6763. We'll have information and maps of the Capitol Complex and different floor levels on our website asap for our Lobby Day.

At the present time, you should contact your personal representative in the House and Senate and the bill authors to oppose these bills. Our attorney is in the process of analyzing all bills in detail with talking points for us and more will be posted later.

Your representatives may be found from a Search Box on the State's Home Page: www.capitol.state.tx.us It's on the lower right side of the screen. Print this out as you'll need it!

The next step is committee hearings.

Respective bills will be assigned to a committee in the House and Senate. We'll then contact the committee members to oppose the bills and attend hearings. This is the best opportunity to kill

them.

A House Committee will hold a hearing and a Senate Committee will hold a hearing. After both hearings, the bills then go to the entire body of the House and Senate for a floor vote by all legislators. If there are bill differences after this vote, they must be reconciled by a joint committee. Then the bill goes to the governor for his signature or it becomes law without his signature after a certain length of time.

It is imperative that everyone subscribe to our TX-RPOA E-News for regular Action Alerts to be informed and ready to act. To subscribe, email: rpoa@texas.net.

Texas has been under heavy attack from the "Animal Rights" Movement for the past 2-3 years. This is the worst session ever for anti-pet legislation and we will be fighting their agenda to end all use, breeding and ownership of animals. Texas Humane Legislation Network is a coalition of all Texas "animal rights" organizations and is there in full force each session with multiple lobbyists. If you have doubts as to their agenda, note that their legislation is leading to the ultimate goal of every animal in the US sterilized and no breeding of animals. Couldn't be plainer!

Gib Lewis, our lobbyist, is at work on our behalf and we are negotiating with another lobbyist. Our attorneys are hard at work and will be at the two hearings Monday. Friday was the last day to file bills so we're finalizing our positions on them this weekend for the lobbyists. Needless to say, we're very busy! But the important point is that we win for the sake of our animals and we need YOU to do it!

All this takes time and money so spread the word that donations can be made at: www.rpoatexasoutreach.org with PayPal or by mail to RPOA Texas Outreach at 900 NE Loop 410 #311-D, San Antonio, TX 78209.