

CITY OF MIDDLEBURG HEIGHTS, OHIO

Resolution No. 2021-**47**

Introduced By: Mr. Ali

**A RESOLUTION
IN SUPPORT OF SENATE BILL 164**

WHEREAS, Senate Bill 164 has been introduced in the 134th General Assembly of the State of Ohio; and

WHEREAS, under the current Goddard's Law (H.B.60), it is a Fifth Degree Felony to purposely abuse a companion animal; and

WHEREAS, with new sentencing reform laws, person (s) who are convicted of a Fifth Degree Felony are spending little or no time in prison even for the most egregious acts against companion animals; and

WHEREAS, Senate Bill 164 would increase penalties under Goddard's Law to a Fourth Degree Felony, with 6 to 18 months in prison and \$5,000 in fines; and

WHEREAS, the legislation would create a new offense for those who aid or abet in killing or causing serious injury to a companion animal, the penalty for such offense would be a Fifth Degree Felony; and

WHEREAS, Senate Bill 164 classifies the F4, F5 and M1 as Violent Offenses; and

WHEREAS, these felonies would be non-expungable; and

WHEREAS, Senate Bill 164 bans the use of the gas chamber to euthanize companion animals.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MIDDLEBURG HEIGHTS, STATE OF OHIO, AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1: That the Council of the City of Middleburg Heights hereby urges the Ohio General Assembly to pass Senate Bill 164 to increase the penalties for serious acts of cruelty towards or the killing of a companion animal, creating a new prohibition for those who aid or abet and preventing an offender from having their records sealed for causing serious physical injury to or killing a companion animal, and banning the use of the gas chamber to euthanize companion animals.

Section 2: The Clerk of Council is hereby directed to forward a certified copy of this Resolution to Senator Nickie J. Antonio and Representative Bride Rose Sweeney.

Section 3: It is hereby found and determined that all formal actions of this Council concerning and relating to the passage of this Resolution were adopted in an open meeting of this Council, and that all deliberations of this Council and any of its committees that resulted in such formal actions were in meetings open to the public, in compliance with all legal requirements, including Chapter 107 of the Middleburg Heights Code and Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.

Passed: 6-22-21

David Bortolotto
President of Council

Attest: M Meala
Clerk of Council

Approved On: 6-23-2021

Presented to Mayor: 6-23-21

Matthew Costello
Mayor

| | Yea | Nay |
|------------|----------|-------|
| Bortolotto | <u>X</u> | _____ |
| Ali | <u>X</u> | _____ |
| Sage | <u>X</u> | _____ |
| Meany | <u>X</u> | _____ |
| McGregor | <u>X</u> | _____ |
| Ference | <u>X</u> | _____ |
| Grech | <u>X</u> | _____ |

I, Mary Ann Meala Clerk of the Council of the City of Middleburg Hts., Ohio, hereby certify that Res. 2021-47 adopted by the Council of the City of Middleburg Hts., on 6/22/21 was posted for a period of fifteen days, beginning 6/23/21 and remained so posted for fifteen days at the two posting places as designated by Charter.

Mary Ann Meala
Clerk

CERTIFICATE

I, Mary Ann Meala, Clerk of Council of the City of Middleburg Heights, Ohio, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and accurate copy of Res. 2021-47 passed on the 22nd day of June 2021 by said Council.

Mary Ann Meala
Clerk of Council