From: Joe Declet <fins\_and\_skins@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, December 6, 2021 10:38 AM

**To:** Eggers, Dave

**Subject:** [BULK] Please VOTE NO on the proposed Pet Sale Ban

**Importance:** Low

CAUTION: This message has originated from outside of the organization. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you are expecting the correspondence from the sender and know the content is safe.

Joe Declet 8451 49th ST N #102 Pinellas Park, FL 33781

December 6, 2021

Dear Commissioner 4th District Eggers,

I urge you to vote no to the 1-year moratorium and possible pet sale ban to follow. Banning the sale of dogs and cats by pet stores in Pinellas County will not stop inhumane breeding nor will it address shelter overpopulation. What this ordinance will do is limit future pet owners' ability to find the best pet for their families. It is important that consumers have pet choice and the ability to consider safe, humane, and fully regulated sources for pets. If a prospective pet owner needs or wants a specific breed due to common situations such as allergies, the presence of small children, or living space concerns; their options will be severely limited if a pet sale ban is passed.

A pet sale ban is bad for pets, pet owners, and small business. Instead, I urge you to support local Pinellas County pet stores, and consider other options instead of a pet sale ban. Common sense solutions include pet store sourcing requirements, pet warranty requirements, and strengthening enforcement of federal and state animal care laws, including setting and enforcing strong and uniform standards of care and applying them to pet sources including stores, licensed breeders, shelters and rescues. Balanced regulations provide better protection for Pinellas County's pets, pet owners, and small businesses.

During these difficult times, pet stores are a transparent and trusted source for helping families find the companion animal that is right for them. Preventing responsible and regulated stores from selling pets will hurt Largo small businesses, force families to turn to the unregulated pet sources where they will fall victim to fraud, and it will do nothing to keep pets any safer. Please vote no against the pet sale ban in Pinellas County.

If a prospective pet owner wants to purchase a puppy, they will not be able to buy one from a pet store under a pet sale ban. This will drive people away from regulated sources that provide healthy, well-nurtured companion animals. If this pet sale ban becomes law, we will see significant growth in the unregulated black market for puppy sales that lacks transparency, has zero oversight, and no system in place to protect animals' welfare, or the families who bring the pets into their homes. Last year, the Better Business Bureau reported that pet scams now comprise 24 percent of all online fraud, tripling in 2020 compared to previous years.

The past year has been incredibly challenging, particularly for small business owners. These days, our government should be doing everything in its power to support responsible small businesses, especially those that are regulated. Passing a pet sale ban will do just the opposite. Rather than banning the sale of pets, lawmakers should focus instead on making sure that all breeders and sellers are held to the same high standards as responsible pet stores in Florida. Say NO to 1-year moratorium and pet sale ban in Pinellas County, Fl.

Sincerely, Joe Declet

From: Dan Cohn < Cohn1970@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, December 6, 2021 10:38 AM

**To:** Eggers, Dave

**Subject:** Please VOTE NO on the proposed Pet Sale Ban

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Dan Cohn 3134 Karen Ave Largo, FL 33765

December 6, 2021

Dear Commissioner 4th District Eggers,

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to 1-year moratorium and pet sale ban in Pinellas County, Fl.	

Sincerely, Dan Cohn

From: Dartanya Hausburg <tgb332016@gmail.com>

Sent: Monday, December 6, 2021 10:17 AM

**To:** Eggers, Dave

**Subject:** Please VOTE NO on the proposed Pet Sale Ban

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Dartanya Hausburg 7110 Bowspirit Pl Apolo Beach, FL 33781

December 6, 2021

Dear Commissioner 4th District Eggers,

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Sincerely, Dartanya Hausburg

From: Robert Town <a href="mailto:kmaizeandblue@yahoo.com">kmaizeandblue@yahoo.com</a>

Sent: Monday, December 6, 2021 10:07 AM

**To:** Eggers, Dave

**Subject:** [BULK] Please VOTE NO on the proposed Pet Sale Ban

**Importance:** Low

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Robert Town 525 61st Ave. NE St. petersburg, FL 33703

December 6, 2021

Dear Commissioner 4th District Eggers,

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Sincerely, Robert Town