

PROHIBITION OF THE DECLAWING OF CATS.

1. NO PERSON SHALL PERFORM OR PROCURE AN ONYCHECTOMY (DECLAWING), PARTIAL OR COMPLETE PHLANGECTOMY OR TENDONECTOMY PROCEDURE BY ANY MEANS ON A CAT WITHIN CITY OF AUSTIN, EXCEPT WHEN NECESSARY FOR A THERAPEUTIC PURPOSE. THERAPEUTIC PURPOSE MEANS THE NECESSITY TO ADDRESS THE PHYSICAL MEDICAL CONDITION OF THE CAT, SUCH AS AN EXISTING OR RECURRING ILLNESS, INFECTION, DISEASE, INJURY OR ABNORMAL CONDITION IN THE CLAW THAT COMPROMISES THE CAT'S HEALTH. THERAPEUTIC PURPOSE DOES NOT INCLUDE COSMETIC OR AESTHETIC REASONS OR REASONS OF CONVENIENCE IN KEEPING OR HANDLING THE CAT.

2. ANY PERSON WHO PERFORMS OR PROCURES AN ONYCHECTOMY, PARTIAL OR COMPLETE PHLANGECTOMY OR TENDONECTOMY PROCEDURE ON ANY CAT WITHIN THE CITY OF AUSTIN SHALL BE GUILTY OF A VIOLATION OF THIS SECTION WHICH SHALL BE PUNISHABLE BY A CIVIL PENALTY NOT TO EXCEED _____ DOLLARS.