AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 4 OF THE SOLANO COUNTY CODE, RELATING TO MICROCHIPPING REQUIREMENT OF ALL DOGS AND CATS ADOPTED, REDEEMED, RELEASED OR RESCUED FROM THE COUNTY ANIMAL SHELTER

WHEREAS, the Solano County animal shelter received eight thousand, seven hundred, fifty-three animals in the 2005/2006 fiscal year, most of which were dogs and cats; and

WHEREAS, of the animals the shelter received in the 2005/2006 fiscal year, only one thousand, ninety-seven animals were returned to their owners, while an additional one thousand, six hundred, sixty-four animals were adopted, released, or rescued; and

WHEREAS, of the animals the shelter received in the 2005/2006 fiscal year, nearly six thousand had to be euthanized, and many of these animals could not be returned to their owners due to a lack of identifying information; and

WHEREAS, several counties and cities in California have instituted programs to require microchipping of dogs and/or cats to assist in the process of identifying animals and returning them to their owners; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors finds that required microchipping of dogs and cats adopted, redeemed, released, or rescued from the Solano County Animal Shelter would facilitate the identification and return of animals received at the animal shelter and would reduce the animal shelter's expenses and the need to resort to euthanasia.

The Solano County Board of Supervisors ordains as follows:

Section 1. Section 4-183 of the Solano County Code is added as follows:

"Sec. 4-183. Microchip Requirement
(a) For purposes of this chapter, microchip shall mean a permanent radio transponder used for identification purposes and implanted under the animal's skin by, or under the supervision of, a licensed veterinarian or other qualified individual approved by the Director of General Services, or designee.

(b) All dogs and cats adopted, released, redeemed or rescued from the Solano County Animal Shelter shall be implanted with microchips. It shall be the duty of the owner of each dog or cat to ensure that the microchip is registered with the manufacturer, and that the registration is properly updated if the dog or cat moves.

(c) The adopter, redeemer, or rescuer shall pay the cost of microchipping to the Animal Shelter in the amount specified by the Board of Supervisors at the time of redemption or release of the animal from the Shelter.

Section 2. In the event of any conflict between any provision of this ordinance and any law or regulation, the conflicting provision of this ordinance shall be deemed superseded and severed and all remaining portions of this ordinance shall remain in full force and effect."
Section 3. This ordinance shall be effective thirty (30) days after its adoption.

Section 4. A summary of this ordinance will be published within fifteen (15) days after its adoption in a newspaper of general circulation in Solano County.

Passed and adopted by the Solano County Board of Supervisors on Feb. 13, 2007 by the following vote:

AYES: Supervisors Kondylis, Silva, Sperling, Vasquez, Chair Reagan

NOES: Supervisors None

EXCUSED: Supervisors None

Attest:
Michael D. Johnson, Clerk
Board of Supervisors

By: Myra Chirila, Deputy
Patricia J. Crittenden, Chief Deputy Clerk

Introduced: January 23 2007
Adopted: February 13 2007
Effective: March 15 2007