

## THE COUNCIL

November 12, 1992

Res. No. 985

**Resolution calling upon the appropriate committee of the Council to conduct an oversight hearing on the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.**

By Council Members Dear, McCaffrey and Abel; also Council Members Alter, DeMarco, Foster, Horwitz, Koslowitz, O'Donovan, Robinson, Ward and Ognibene.

**Whereas**, The American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals ("ASPCA") was the first humane society in America, dating back to 1866, and is currently one of the largest humane societies in the world; and

**Whereas**, The ASPCA provides animal rescue work and operates animal shelters, veterinary hospitals and spay/neuter clinics in New York City; and

**Whereas**, It is the policy of the ASPCA to euthanize or destroy animals which have been brought to their facilities within seven days; and

**Whereas**, New York City has contracted with the ASPCA to provide services which include the pick-up of all stray animals and special pick-up upon request of the Department of Health ("DOH"), spay and neutering services and assisting DOH in dog licensing and collection of these licensing fees; and

**Whereas**, The ASPCA received \$4,362,500 from the City for the period July 1, 1990 to December 31, 1991 and a new contract to continue services until June 30, 1993 provides for payment of \$2.5 million, with a possible increase; and

**Whereas**, Newspaper reports and societies such as the Companion Animal Network and Staten Island People Against Animal Cruelty have criticized the ASPCA, citing such problems as dark and dirty facilities, mistaken animal killings and inappropriate spending of City funds on new buildings while service has decreased, as well as the ASPCA's policy of euthanasia for animals other than the diseased or dangerous; now, therefore, be it

**Resolved**, That the Council of the City of New York calls upon the appropriate committee of the Council to conduct an oversight hearing on the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.

Referred to the Committee on Health.