

# The REAL Consequences of the California Pet Sale Ban



**93% of stores selling puppies went out of business.**

- Twenty-six of 28 stores that had been selling puppies closed permanently.
- Loyal employees lost their jobs.
- Customers of these small, locally owned stores lost a trusted relationship for pet care advice.
- Future pet owners lost a regulated and inspected source for puppies.
- Local communities lost tax revenue.



**17 of 21 animal and consumer protection provisions were eliminated.**

- Laws protecting pet store puppies and the families who acquired them were repealed or made useless.
- Lockyer-Polanco-Farr Pet Purchase Protection Act regulations —some of the strongest in the country—were eradicated including:
  - Mandatory veterinarian exams and quarantine for sick animals.
  - Penalties up to \$10,000 if a store knowingly sold an ill or unfit dog.
  - Requirement to post the pet's source and the purchaser's rights, protections and warranties.



**Reported puppy scams increased 350%.**

- Puppy scams reported to the Better Business Bureau rose 350% in the 2 1/2 years after the ban compared to the same timeframe before the ban.<sup>2</sup>
- California veterinarians reported seeing an increase in sick dogs acquired from unregulated sources.<sup>3</sup>

**California's ban hurt pets, families and small businesses. States should instead update and enforce existing regulations, go after bad breeders who break the law, and hold all regulated breeders to the same standards of care.**

<sup>1</sup> [https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/codes\\_displayText.xhtml?division=105.&chapter=5.&part=6.&lawCode=HSC&article=2](https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/codes_displayText.xhtml?division=105.&chapter=5.&part=6.&lawCode=HSC&article=2)

<sup>2</sup> [BBB.org/scamtracker](https://www.bbb.org/scamtracker)

<sup>3</sup> ABC 10 San Diego <https://www.10news.com/news/team-10/puppy-dies-four-hours-after-sd-family-buys-it-vets-say-new-law-may-be-part-of-the-problem>