

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 90, SECTIONS 91.21 AND 91.22 OF THE 1988 CITY OF SPRINGFIELD CODE OF ORDINANCES, AS AMENDED, RELATING TO CRUELTY TO ANIMALS AND ANIMAL FIGHTING

WHEREAS, the City of Springfield is a home rule unit as defined in Article VII, Section 6(a) of the 1970 Illinois Constitution and has jurisdiction over matters pertaining to its government and affairs; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of the City to amend Chapter 90, Sections 91.21 and 91.22 relating to the minimum fines for Cruelty to Animals and Animal Fighting.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS:

Section 1: That the City Council hereby amends Chapter 90, Sections 91.21 and 91.22 of the 1988 City of Springfield Code of Ordinances, as amended, as follows:

SEE EXHIBIT A

Section 2: That the City Clerk is hereby directed to publish this ordinance in pamphlet form.

Section 3: That this ordinance shall become effective immediately upon its passage, recording by the City Clerk and publication in pamphlet form.

PASSED: _____, 2026

SIGNED: _____, 2026

RECORDED: _____, 2026

Mayor Misty Buscher

ATTEST: _____
City Clerk Charles L. Redpath Sr.

Approved as to legal sufficiency:

Sponsored by: Mayor Misty Buscher

 2-11-26
Office of Corporation Counsel / Date

Alderman Roy Williams
Alderman Lakeshia Purchase
Alderman Erin Conley
Alderman Jim Donelan

EXHIBIT A

§ 91.21. Cruelty to animals.

- (a) No person shall commit acts of cruelty to animals. The following acts shall be deemed to be examples of cruelty to animals and are not intended to be a complete list of acts which may constitute cruelty. Doctors of veterinary medicine, in the performance of their profession, are not subject to the provisions of this section.
 - (1) Overloading, overdriving, overworking, beating, torturing, tormenting, mutilating, or killing any animal or causing or knowingly allowing the same to be done.
 - (2) Cruelly working any old, maimed, injured, sick, or disabled animal or causing or knowingly allowing the same to be done.
 - (3) Failing to provide any animal in one's charge or custody, as owner or keeper, with proper food, drink, shelter, air, sanitation, or medical care.
 - (4) Abandoning any animal without making provisions for its care and feeding.
- (b) Animal control officers, or police officers, are authorized to remove the animal for placement in the Sangamon County Animal Control Center at the officer's sole discretion.
- (c) Any person convicted of a violation of this section shall be fined \$10,000 for the first offense; \$20,000 for the second offense; \$30,000 for the third offense; \$40,000 for the fourth offense; and \$50,000 for the fifth and each subsequent offense. If the person convicted of the violation is the owner, the \$10,000 shall be paid before the animal can be released. Subsequent violations of this section shall result in prohibition of ownership of an animal for a two-year period.

§ 91.22. Animal fighting.

- (a) No person shall use or keep animals or be in any way connected with the management of any place kept or used for the purpose of fighting or baiting any dogs, cocks, or other animals or permit such place to be kept or used on premises owned or controlled by such persons.
- (b) Any person convicted of a violation of this section shall be fined \$10,000 for the first offense; \$20,000 for the second offense; \$30,000 for the third offense; \$40,000 for the fourth offense; and \$50,000 for the fifth and each subsequent offense. If the person convicted of the violation is the owner, violations of this section shall result in prohibition of ownership for a two-year period.

ORDINANCE FACT SHEET

ORD. REQUEST FORM NO: _____
 DATE OF 1ST READING: 2/17/2026

OFFICE REQUESTING: OFFICE OF CORPORATION COUNSEL CONTACT PERSON: GREG MOREDOCK
 PHONE NUMBER: _____

EMERGENCY PASSAGE: No Yes If yes, explain justification.

TYPE OF ORDINANCE: _____ FISCAL IMPACT: \$ _____
 (If amending a previous ordinance, please attach a copy of the previous ordinance)

SUGGESTED TITLE:
 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 91.21 CRUELTY TO ANIMALS AND CHAPTER 91.22 ANIMAL FIGHTING

Please list supporting documentation (i.e., contract, agreement, change order, bid book, etc.)

CONTRACTOR / VENDOR NAME: _____ VENDOR NO: _____

CONTRACT TERM: _____ Change in Scope Yes No

CONTRACT AMOUNT: _____
 (Original amount if change order) Change Order # _____ Additional Amount _____

Method of Purchase (check one) Previous Ord #'s _____
 Low Bid Other: _____ Is Purchasing Agent approval required? No Yes
 Low Bid Meeting Specs Exception: _____ Is Purchasing Agent approval attached? No Yes
 Low Evaluated Bid Code Provision: _____

Accounting information (if more than four accounts, please attach list)

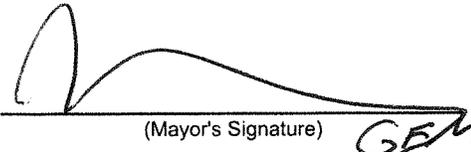
REVENUE					
Fund	Agency	Org	Activity	Object	Amount
1					
2					
3					
4					

EXPENDITURE					
Fund	Agency	Org	Activity	Object	Amount
1					
2					
3					
4					

FUNDS CHECK BY: _____ Date: _____
 DIRECTOR / SUPERVISOR SIGNATURE _____ Date: _____
 CITY PURCHASING AGENT: _____ Date: _____

COMMENTS

THIS AMENDMENT CREATES A MINIMUM FINE OF \$10,000.00 FOR THE FIRST OFFENSE OF ANY CITIZEN OR GROUP WHO IS FOUND LIABLE THROUGH THE CITY OF SPRINGFIELD'S ADMINISTRATIVE COURT PROCESS OF VIOLATING CHAPTER 91.21 CRUELTY TO ANIMALS OR CHAPTER 91.22 ANIMAL FIGHTING. EVERY OFFENSE AFTER THE FIRST OFFENSE WILL RESULT IN AN ADDITIONAL \$10,000.00 FINE.

SIGN OFF:  (Mayor's Signature) _____ (Director of OBM)

2026-088