



# **BULLDOG CLUB OF AMERICA**

## **Position Statement**

### **SPAYING AND NEUTERING**

The Bulldog Club of America encourages pet owners to spay or neuter their dogs as a responsible means to prevent accidental breeding resulting in unwanted puppies. The BCA encourages breeders to discuss spaying and neutering options with puppy buyers who do not wish to participate in conformation events.

Spaying and neutering help control dog and cat populations and are desirable for shelter or rescue dogs. Male and female dogs should be spayed or castrated before being offered for sale by humane organizations and rescues.

The BCA does not support regulations or legislation mandating spay/neuter of privately owned, non-shelter dogs. Mandatory approaches contribute to pet owners avoiding licensing, rabies vaccination and veterinary care for their pets, and may have other unintended consequences. Spaying or neutering pets should be considered on an individual basis, with the understanding that for them, population control is a less important concern than is health of each animal. Dogs should be household pets. Responsible owners should ensure that their pets are provided appropriate and regularly scheduled veterinary care and discuss with their veterinarians the timing, risks and benefits of an elective surgery.

The BCA believes that state and local governments must evaluate their needs and resources to

develop appropriate and effective dog and cat population control programs. Central to these efforts should be programs aimed at increasing pet retention through owner education, improving training for owners and pets and the development of community consensus in defining issues.

The BCA also believes that the practice of requiring mandatory spaying or neutering of privately owned dogs without providing compensation to the owners is a violation of the requirement of the 5th Amendment to the Constitution that prohibits the taking of private property for public use, without just compensation and further believes that this denial of compensation is a denial of due process.