

**Resolution
Board of Supervisors
County of Columbia
New York**

RESOLUTION NO. 174-2015

DATE: April 8, 2015

BY SUPERVISOR *Richard Keaveney*
COMMITTEE: FINANCE

CHAIRMAN: RICHARD KEAVENEY

**AUTHORIZATION FOR PASSAGE OF S.1081/A.2778T TO HELP
LOCALITIES ACROSS THE STATE TO HUMANELY AND
PRODUCTIVELY MANAGE FERAL CAT COLONIES**

UPON, recommendation of the Finance Committee at a meeting held on the 11th day of April, 2015;

WHEREAS, the most effective way of handling feral cat populations are through trap, neuter and release (TNR) programs where community groups trap feral cats, bring them to local humane societies, SPCAs, non-profit or municipal animal shelters or local veterinarians to spay or neuter, vaccinate and ear-tip the cat so it can be tracked and not trapped again; and

WHEREAS, the trapping and killing of these cats is not an effective means because feral cats will continue to breed. One female cat and her offspring could produce between 100 and 400 cats by the end of seven years.; and

WHEREAS, TNR programs are more cost effective. It costs \$35-\$55 for the TNR of one cat where it costs between \$100 to \$125 for the trapping and killing of a feral cat; and

WHEREAS, it is unclear whether the killing of feral cats is done in a humane manner; and

WHEREAS, municipalities will save taxpayer dollars by employing TNR activities rather than trap and kill activities; and

WHEREAS, in Cook County, IL the program saved \$1.5M in tax dollars during the first three years of the program and the euthanasia of these cats went from 750 annually to 6 or 7 per year; and

WHEREAS, in an 11-year study at the University of Florida, the on-campus cat population decreased by 66% because of the school's TNR program with no new kittens being born in the first four years of operation; and

WHEREAS, 81% of the population do not want feral cat euthanized; and

WHEREAS, there is a bill pending in the New York State Legislature (S.1081 Marchione/A.2778 McDonald) that would provide TNR funding to local humane societies, SPCAs, non-profit and municipal animal shelters through the State's Animal Control fund to be used specifically in upstate New York and on Long Island; and

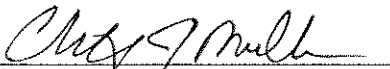
WHEREAS, numerous animal welfare organizations as well as the County Health Officials of New York State and the New York Conference of Mayor's support the proposed legislation

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT

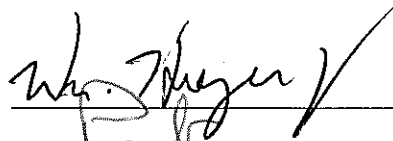
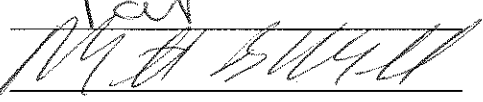
RESOLVED, that the Columbia County Board of Supervisors calls for the swift passage of S.1081/A.2778 to help localities across the state to humanely and productively manage feral cat colonies.; and be it further

RESOLVED, that certified copies of this resolution be forwarded to the Columbia County Attorney, the Columbia County Treasurer, Senator Kathleen Marchione, Libby Post as voice of NYS Human Societies.

Approved:


County Attorney

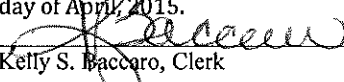
Resolution
Committee

STATE OF NEW YORK }
COUNTY OF COLUMBIA } ss:

This is to certify that I, undersigned Clerk of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Columbia, have compared the foregoing copy of resolution with the original minutes therefore, now remaining on file of record in my office, and that the same is true and correct transcript there from and of the whole of such original.

IN TESTIMONY THEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of said Board of Supervisors this 9th day of April, 2015.


Kelly S. Baccaro, Clerk