

# **CALIFORNIA ANIMAL OWNERS - YOUR RIGHTS ARE AT RISK!**

## **THE CALIFORNIA VETERINARY MEDICAL BOARD WANTS TO TAKE AWAY YOUR RIGHTS!**

The California Veterinary Medical Board (Board) wants to limit our freedom to choose the care we want for our animals. The Board wants to require that care and advice only be provided by licensed veterinarians or their staff. This could mean a ban on private massage, swim therapy and laser therapy, but might extend to grooming, training, pet sitting, horse foot maintenance, nutritional advice given by a pet store, and virtually any kind of animal care activity. It would even become a regulatory violation to refer someone to such services. The Board says this action is necessary to protect our animals from our poor decisions. We disagree. We want the freedom to engage the animal care providers of our choice.

We are asking Californian legislators to sponsor/cosponsor an animal version of Senator Burton's Bill, SB577, which passed in 2002 to secure people the freedom of choice for human alternative and complementary care. The bill will provide a system of informed consent waivers safeguarding freedom of choice for California animal owners. We need to guarantee, through legislative intervention, the same rights to choose health care providers for our animals that we now have for ourselves and our children. Why should California regulations be more restrictive and more invasive for our animals than for ourselves and our children?

## **WHAT YOU CAN DO**

GO TO THIS WEBSITE - [www.CalAAOR.com](http://www.CalAAOR.com) – sign up for newsletter to get updates

**SIGN THE PETITION TO ASK THE LEGISLATURE TO PASS A BILL TO PROTECT OUR RIGHTS (link on CalAAOR.com website)**

- Spread the word by telling your friends about this issue and find out how to volunteer to help this effort on the CalAAOR.com website.
- Send a letter to the editor of your local newspaper and to your California State Legislators (sample letters on CalAAOR.com website)
- 
- Join **California Alliance for Animal Owners Rights (CalAAOR)** on Facebook (link on CalAAOR.com website)