

JOIN THE FIGHT TO BAN CAT DECLAWING IN NEW YORK

Assembly member Linda B. Rosenthal and Senator Michael Gianaris have introduced a bill ([A.1303/S.5532](#)) in the New York State Legislature to ban the practice of cat declawing.

GET THE FACTS

- Cat declawing, onychectomy, is an unnecessary complicated surgical procedure that involves removing bone and cutting through nerves and ligaments to remove the last knuckle of each of a cat's digits. Declawing is *not* simply removing a cat's nails!
- Removing a cat's claws can result in chronic pain and other serious medical issues. When their claws are removed, cats are forced to alter their gait and how they distribute their weight, which can cause prolonged joint and back pain and early onset arthritis. Removal of the claws can also cause abscesses to develop in their paws, which can lead to additional pain and infection when claw regrowth occurs.
- Declawed cats are more likely to develop behavioral issues—such as becoming more likely to bite and less likely to use a litter box—which results in more cats given up to shelters. Los Angeles banned declawing in 2009, and in every year since then, L.A. shelters have taken in fewer cats than in years before the ban.

- The Paw Project, the Humane Society of the United States, the New York State Humane Association, the Humane Society Veterinary Medical Association, and 40+ other animal advocacy organizations and over 140 veterinarians in New York all support a ban on cat declawing.
- Declawing is already banned or considered unethical by professional veterinary organizations in much of the rest of the world, including Australia, Austria, Brazil, Croatia, Germany, Ireland, New Zealand, Sweden, Switzerland, and the United Kingdom.

HOW TO SUPPORT THIS CAUSE

- Sign this petition at: www.tiny.cc/declawban
- We need your help! Contact your New York State Assembly member and Senator today and urge them to support bills [A.1303/S.5532](#)
- You can look up your State Assembly member at www.nyasembly.gov/mem/search and your State Senator at www.nysenate.gov/find-my-senator

WANT MORE INFORMATION?

The Paw Project: www.pawproject.org and info@pawproject.org
Assembly member Linda B. Rosenthal, rosenthal@nyasembly.gov



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