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Corporate Spin Puts Down Pet Cloning Ban

Sacramento—Despite polls showing over 80% of Americans don't approve of pet cloning, the Assembly Business and Professions Committee voted down Assemblymember Levine's (D- Van Nuys) AB 1428, a bill to ban the sale of cloned or genetically modified pets, with a final vote 2-4-4. The opposition; Genetic, Savings, & Clone; was able to scare off members with non-scientific anecdotal rhetoric that cast enough doubt to hold the bill in committee.

"The opposition confused members into thinking the bill was about research and endangered animals," said Levine. "But the only endangered species GSC is worried about is their future investors."

Californians Against Pet Cloning, the sponsor of the bill, and Assemblymember Levine were disappointed that the bill did not get out of committee, but encouraged by the large number of abstentions that clearly demonstrate the concern Legislators have over pet cloning.

"GSC's goal is to make billions of dollars—it's not about furthering and improving the health and welfare of animals," said Crystal Miller-Spiegel of Californians Against Pet Cloning. "They provided no scientific defense, rather well spun anecdotal snippets that masked the suffering of animals and the true ethical concerns of our society."

During the heated debate, Assemblymember Paul Koretz, a member of the committee, questioned how ethical the marketing practices of GSC really were. Koretz had recently received an advertisement from GSC using words like "exact" and "perfect" to describe their product even though, by GSC's own admission, there are differences between the clones and the genetic donors.

"Unfortunately this was a loss for pet lovers today," said Jennifer Fearing of Californians Against Pet Cloning. "Grieving pet lovers are at the mercy of corporations that are trying to make a buck off of their big hearts."

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