

RESOLUTION NO.

WHEREAS, Austin is considered a pet-friendly city with a multitude of resources and amenities catering to pet owners; and

WHEREAS, according to the American Veterinary Medical Association, the population of pet dogs in the United States has increased steadily since 1996 from an estimated 52.9 million dogs to 89.7 million in 2024; and

WHEREAS, 58.2 percent of households in Texas own at least one pet, with dogs being the most popular; and

WHEREAS, based on a 2019 study from the University of Denver, it is estimated that 83 percent of households in Austin currently own a pet; and

WHEREAS, in 2023, Council expressed its support for ensuring the safety of boarded pets in Resolution No. 20230608-042; and

WHEREAS, in July of 2024, beloved pet dog, Wendy, went missing from a local dog boarding facility; and

WHEREAS, adding regulations that prevent dogs from digging under fences and escaping yards serves several important purposes, including ensuring public safety, protecting the welfare of dogs, and promoting responsible pet care; and

WHEREAS, by implementing best practices that address dog digging and escape, communities strive to create safer and more enjoyable environments for both humans and their canine companions; and

WHEREAS, installing a dig guard protection system along the fence at a kennel facility can ensure additional safety for pet owners and pet caregivers; and

