

ORDINANCE NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_

AMENDING CHAPTER 3

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ARTICLE III OF CHAPTER 3 OF THE CHARLOTTE CITY CODE ENTITLED "ANIMALS"**

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**BE IT ORDAINED** by the City Council of the City of Charlotte, North Carolina, that:

**Section 1. Article III of Chapter 3 of the Charlotte City Code is amended as follows:**

"Sec. 3-73. – Exotic or wild animals.

....

(b) Exceptions. This section shall not apply to lawfully operated and located pet shops, zoological gardens, scientific research laboratories, ~~circuses~~, veterinarians harboring such animals for purposes of providing professional medical treatment, or wildlife rehabilitators with proper permits, ~~or exhibitors licensed by the United States Department of Agriculture displaying such animals for educational purposes~~, provided that the animals are maintained in a manner so as to prevent escape.

....

(e) Presence on public rights-of-way. Animals described under subsection (a) of this section but exempt under subsection (b) of this section shall not be allowed on any public street, sidewalk, or other public way, except in a fully enclosed cage or adequate structural restraint. The use of a leash, with or without a muzzle, shall not be considered adequate restraint. ~~Exempt from this subsection are animals that are part of a featured performance at a special event with a city festival or parade permit where the animal handler is licensed by the United States Department of Agriculture.~~"

**Section 3. This ordinance shall be effective July 1, 2022.**

Approved as to form

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City Attorney