

# California Forcing Socialist Law on Pet Industry

D. JOLLY

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Should any government agency have the right to force any type of business to sell a product they don't normally sell? Whether the cause seems humane and right, there is still an important aspect of California's new law that follows a frightening trend started by Barack Obama.

Obama, with his Affordable Care Act, not only forced healthcare insurance companies to sell specified policies, some of which were not policies they normally sold. It also forced business owners to provide healthcare benefits at the expense of the business owners. While this sounds great for the employees, realize that such policies cost business owners anywhere from \$7,500 to \$15,000 a year per employee, if the company employed 50 or more people. That's an additional business cost of \$375,000 to \$750,000 a year for just 50 employees. This is money that comes straight out of the owners' pockets, many of which operated on a very small margin of profit and didn't make that much money in profits. Some chose the alternative of paying a \$2,000 fine for each employee not covered, reducing the employers cost to only \$100,000 a year for 50 employees.

Obamacare also forced all employers, including Christian institutions, to provide free contraceptive coverage for their employees, regardless if it violated their Christian faith.

Obamacare was America's first national socialist program that was forced upon the people. In following that socialist ideology of the Democratic Party. California's Democratic legislature passed a purely socialist bill that forces many business owners to sell a product they would not normally sell.

Assembly Bill 485, the Pet Rescue and Adoption Act, was originally sponsored by Assembly member Patrick O'Donnell (D-Long Beach). The bill sailed through both chambers of the state legislature and was signed into law by Gov. Jerry Brown, a flaming liberal Democrat. Note that many of the policies of Brown are purely socialist in nature and anti-American, anti-Constitution and anti-common sense.

AB 485 states in part:

“This bill would prohibit, on and after January 1, 2019, a pet store operator from selling a live dog, cat, or rabbit in a pet store unless the dog, cat, or rabbit was obtained from a public animal control agency or shelter, society for the prevention of cruelty to animals shelter, humane society shelter, or rescue group, as defined, that is in a cooperative agreement with at least one private or public shelter, as specified. The bill would require all sales of dogs and cats authorized by this provision to be in compliance with laws requiring the spaying or neutering of animals, as specified. The bill would require each pet store to maintain records sufficient to document the source of each dog, cat, or rabbit the pet store sells or provides space for, for at least one year, and to post, in a conspicuous location on the cage or enclosure of each animal, a sign listing the name of the entity from which each dog, cat, or rabbit was obtained, and would authorize public animal control agencies or shelters to periodically require pet stores engaged in sales of dogs, cats, or rabbits to provide access to those records. The bill would make a pet store operator who violates these provisions subject to a civil penalty of \$500, as specified. The bill would also exempt a pet store operator who is subject to these provisions from certain requirements relating to the retail sale of dogs and cats, except as specified.”

Take notice that the bill specifies that pet stores **ONLY** sell rescue or shelter pets. They will no longer be allowed to sell purebred pets as most do. This is a huge violation to the free enterprise system that America was founded upon.

Yes, I'm an animal lover and hate to see any pet destroyed because it has no home, and that heart-string emotion is what made the bill popular. However, the underlying aspects of the bill are dangerous and threatens every business owner in the state. If they can force one industry to stop selling one of their main products and then force them to sell a product they don't normally sell, then the legislature can do the same any other business group in the state. This is pure **SOCIALISM** and goes against everything America was founded upon and stands for.

Many pet store owners have condemned AB 485. Mike Bober, President of the Pet Industry Joint Advisory Council issued a statement that read:

“Assembly Bill 485 reverses California’s tradition of leading the nation in pet and consumer protections. It also strips consumers of many pet store protections, risks hundreds of jobs, and reduces pet choice.”

It seems that each and every day, California takes steps to be a purely socialist run state. They passed their own cap and trade law, the only one in the country, which is another socialist piece of legislation designed to control industry. California is no doubt a beautiful state with great climates and one of the most fertile agricultural areas in the nation, but due to the policies of those running the state, there is no way you could ever get me to live there and I question why anyone who cares about the nation continues to live under the state’s socialist tyranny.