

TESTIMONY OF DR. DANIEL TEICH BEFORE THE ZONING COMMISSION OF
THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA ON CASE NO. 05-21A PROPOSED TEXT
AMENDMENTS INVOLVING VETERINARY HOSPITALS

Dear Commission Members:

My name is Daniel Teich and I am a licensed veterinarian in the District of Columbia. I appear before you to discuss portions of the proposed text amendments that affect veterinarians. I follow the statements of Dr. Bruce Herwald and Dr. Bonnie Buntain, but would like to stress the relationship between veterinarians and our surrounding communities.

After discussions with several local community members, I understand their concerns toward dog noise and animal waste. Current problems are focused upon the improper actions of a select few dog boarding / dog daycare businesses, not veterinarians. Regulations have already been implemented to assure that dog boarding and daycare businesses will fit into local communities.

Veterinarians are medical practitioners with the health of the local animal and human population as our focus. As veterinary medicine has evolved over the past thirty years, the profession has shifted towards being a partner with the community and animal owners, to ensure the health of humans and animals.

The proposed text places a harsh burden upon veterinary practices seeking to open within the city and may curtail the expansion of our essential services. Currently veterinarians in the city generally do not board dogs and I support having to obtain a special exception to board healthy dogs within a veterinary practice. I also support enforcement of noise restrictions and waste management, as these are essential to community welfare.

Veterinarians are members of the community who wish to work with community leaders to ensure the convenient availability of our services while serving the interests of our community.

Respectfully submitted,

Daniel Teich, DVM

ZONING COMMISSION
CASE No. 05-21A
District of Columbia
EXHIBIT No. 11
CASE NO. 05-21A
EXHIBIT NO. 11