



# NYC Rules

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## Public comments for: [Animals \(Article 161\) and Reportable Diseases and Conditions \(Article 11\)](#)

### Comments

Erin Trickett

Comment:

Regarding .01(b)(4), ferrets are good pets for responsible individuals, and the proposed stipulations will reflect a portion of that. However, I believe that the sale of ferrets should be limited to animal shelters at their discretion, as I have seen other cities struggle with impulse animal purchases (not just ferrets, but also rodents, birds, and snakes) that become abandoned and sent to the city shelters, where they become a financial burden as they are still termed 'exotics.' While allowing ferrets to be legal will lead to owners being responsible with their care, keeping pet stores from selling them will stop an increase in impulse pets that will turn back on the city. Thank you for reading.

Agency: [DOHMH](#)

Judy Garceau

Comment:

Please legalize ferrets in New York City. As a mother of five children, I have had a wide range of pets over the years. By far, my favorite was our ferrets. We had many over the years and I cherished each one. They are great pets...social, funny, loving, quiet. They pose no danger to wildlife and have been domesticated for thousands of years. Prohibiting pet shops from selling them would help deter impulse buying, therefore reducing the chance of any ending up in shelters. Thank you.

Agency: [DOHMH](#)

J Scheer

## Comment:

As a Shelter operator and ferret owner for some 18 years, i have seen the results of people being "caught" having contraband animals; confiscation, euthanization. Some do get into the shelter system straining already thin resources. i agree with the stipulation of vaccine, and neutering of ferrets. I further wish to add the necessity of mandatory microchipping of ferrets, so that owners and records can be tracked in the event of theft, or the ferret getting lost or loose. It would also be helpful in the prosecution of abusers.

Agency: [DOHMH](#)

Brenna Wingett

## Comment:

As an owner of ferrets, I can attest that they pose no risks to humans. All pets should be vaccinated and spayed/neutered. Most pet stores that sell ferrets already have them desexed, and all rescues ensure that the rescued animals are desexed. Ferrets are playful, curious animals, but they need owners who can care for them properly. There should be more education for people who choose to own ferrets. People should be allowed to adopt ferrets and care for them in NYC. Thank you so much for your time.

Agency: [DOHMH](#)

Cheryl Richardson

## Comment:

I come before you today to ask that you give consideration to allowing neutered/spayed ferrets in New York. I would also VERY STRONGLY recommend that you forbid the sale of ferrets in pet stores to avoid what could be termed as a fad or impulse rush to purchase these neutered/spayed ferrets which may result in subsequent abandonment. I have owned a total of six ferrets over the past 9 years and have learned volumes about their behavior, needs, food requirements (they are obligate carnivores, and should never been fed fruits, vegetables, dairy or human food except for raw meats, or freeze dried meats). I would ask that for those who are well educated to their care and handling, medical requirements and diet, they are extremely loving, well mannered and extremely quiet pets. I presently have 3 male ferrets and while I have owned a menagerie in the past, including tortoises, guinea pigs, birds, wild rabbits and dogs and cats, I can say without a shred of doubt, that they are the most affectionate and devoted of all. No barking, screaming or howling ever, just the most faint noise that we ferret owners refer to as "dooking". A little warbling, quivery sound which indicates sheer joy. My three do not bite, and I will say that unless abused or neglected, or taunted as a rule, they do not bite. They show affection by dooking and by furiously licking the owner, and following close by. They sleep 20+ hours a day making them wonderful for knowledgeable individuals who work during the day. If I can be of further service, or provide additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me. Respectfully Submitted for consideration. Thank you for the opportunity to express my views.

Agency: [DOHMH](#)

Connie Martin

Comment:

Please reverse the current ban on ferret ownership in NYC. Ferrets are wonderful companion animals that provide hours of joy and amusement for so many people. I would however like to see a ban on the selling of ferrets from petstores as this would prevent any impulse purchases. This would also help to make sure the ferrets are with responsible and loving homes/people. If a ban on the sale of ferrets isn't possible please consider a law requiring the ferrets receive e all the necessary rabies and distempershots prior to purchase

Agency: [DOHMH](#)

Colleen Bak

Comment:

I would like to comment that I think spayed/neutered ferrets should be legal to keep as pets in nyc, but that they should not be sold in local pet stores.

Agency: [DOHMH](#)

Michele Katen

Comment:

I support the amendment to Article 161 to remove ferrets as a prohibited animal in NYC. There is no documentation that domesticated ferrets cause concern for public health. NYC pet stores sell food and other items for ferrets, so why not legalize them! They make wonderful pets. Hope this legalization will help efforts in California and Hawaii, where they are also prohibited.

Agency: [DOHMH](#)

Julie Burton

Comment:

I have owned 5 ferrets over the years and found them to be great pets - much like kittens in their behavior. They are especially suited to apartment living as they don't require much space. I believe the Dept. of Health should allow spayed/neutered ferrets to be owned in NYC. It would also be a god idea not to have ferrets sold in pet stores.

Agency: [DOHMH](#)

Patricia Shaskin

## Comment:

I would like to show support for allowing domestic ferret ownership in New York City. I have been a ferret owner for 18 years. Ferrets are wonderful pets and companions. They are very smart and very clean animals. They do not cause any illness risk to humans. Domestic ferrets cannot survive outside on their own. I agree that they should be neutered and should have rabies shots. Ferrets can be trained to use a litter box so they do not need to be walked. They do not bark or chirp or make any noise so they are very good pets for those who live in apartments. Ferrets are loving animals and they have been brought me much joy.

Agency: [DOHMH](#)

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