

**Important Information Regarding the insert the Name of the Proposed or Existing Mandatory Animal Microchipping Legislation here.**

Write a simple introductory paragraph regarding the proposed or existing legislation that pertains to mandatory microchipping of animals in your region or country.

Although those who promote microchips claim the implants are safe, research shows that serious health risks are associated with microchip implants. For example, published scientific studies found a causal link between microchip implants and cancer in laboratory mice and rats. Researchers noted that the tumours arose at the site of the microchips and often grew around the implanted devices. Sometimes the cancer even spread to other parts of the body. Scientific documents also reveal that dogs, cats, Damaraland mole-rats, small zoo animals, an Egyptian fruit bat and a house musk shrew have also developed cancer at the site of their microchip implants.

Neurological damage due to microchip implants has also been documented in dogs and other animals. There is also documentation of a kitten and an alpaca who died from the microchip implant procedure (the microchip was accidentally inserted into the brainstem of the kitten and into the spinal cord of the alpaca). And, there is a case of a little dog who bled to death within hours of receiving a microchip implant by a veterinarian.

In addition to the aforementioned health risks, the FDA lists “adverse tissue reaction, migration of implanted transponder, compromised information security, failure of implanted transponder, failure of inserter, failure of electronic scanner, electromagnetic interference, electrical hazards, magnetic resonance incompatibility and needle stick” as some of the risks of microchip implant technology.

Besides the potentially debilitating and lethal health risks of microchip implants, it is important to know that the designated scanners cannot read the microchips all of the time. According to the results of a study about microchips and scanners, “None of the scanners examined had 100% sensitivity for any of the microchip brands.” Failure of scanners to detect microchips has resulted in the death of microchipped pets. The JAVMA reports on an American Pit Bull Terrier named Hadden who was euthanized at a shelter in Virginia because the scanner could not detect his microchip.

Scientific documents also show that microchip implants can be “lost” within the body and also expelled from the body. So, what is the purpose of injecting a microchip into an animal’s body for identification purposes when the device may be lost or unreadable? But then again, why should anyone be forced to implant a foreign object in their animal’s body?

Pet owners, the medical community, government officials and the general public should carefully review the health risks associated with microchip implants. All clauses regarding mandatory microchipping of animals should be immediately withdrawn from the legislation. In addition, legislation that bans mandatory microchipping of any animal should be enacted.

A simple, safe and inexpensive alternative to a potentially dangerous microchip implant is to put a properly fitted collar with current identification on pets. Animals can also be tattooed, provided that the procedure is done humanely, professionally and on a voluntary basis. Pet owners should also ensure that their fencing and gates are safe and intact so that animals do not stray from home.

An in-depth review of health risks and other problems associated with microchip implants is available in the document entitled *Microchip Implants: Technological Solution or 21<sup>st</sup> Century Nightmare?* The document, and other valuable animal health information, is at the website [www.noble-leon.com](http://www.noble-leon.com).

#### **References:**

*Microchip Implants: Technological Solution or 21<sup>st</sup> Century Nightmare?* This document examines the health risks of microchip implants, the unethical behavior of the microchip industry and the goal to chip all animals and humans - <http://noble-leon.com/letters/microchip-implants-technological-solution-or-21st-century-nightmare.html>

Reference section for the document entitled *Microchip Implants: Technological Solution or 21<sup>st</sup> Century Nightmare?* - <http://noble-leon.com/letters/microchip-implants-technological-solution-or-21st-century-nightmare-references.html>

Scientific documents regarding health risks and other problems associated with microchip implant technology - <http://noble-leon.com/resourcesAdvanced/microchips.html>

Articles, websites and other helpful information regarding microchip implants - <http://noble-leon.com/resourcesLayman/microchips.html>