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Re: HB22 Cat Declawing – OPPOSE

I believe that removing a cat's toenails using a Surgical Laser can greatly increase the opportunity for better health and happiness of both the cat and the human in "Special Situations", without causing extreme pain or suffering for the cat.

I consider removing a cat's toe nails as a "Special Needs Procedure". When a human "needs" his companion for the human's mental and physical health, but has a "Special Condition" such as an immunocompromised disease or anticoagulant issues, the human's Doctor may encourage his patient to "get rid of his cat" because of the danger of "cat scratch fever" or bleeding issues. That solution can result in a miserable human and a miserable cat. However, if a veterinarian can offer the solution of a Laser Surgery to remove that cat's toe nails, I believe that both the cat and the human will have a happier, healthier life.

I have been using a Surgical Laser for all of my patient's surgeries for over 20 years. I can remove a tumor on a tiny parakeet, remove toenails on a cat or perform a spay on a hundred- pound dog using a surgical laser with the same excellent results. The Laser generates a miraculous recovery for every surgery as compared to the slow painful recovery from scalpel surgery. As the beam from the laser cuts tissue, it also seals all of the blood vessels, which stops the bleeding and it also seals all of the nerve endings, which stops the pain. Before I had the surgical laser, I needed to send home lots of pain medications after surgery, now I send home lots of medications to reduce pet's activity so the pet can heal safely!

I believe that allowing a veterinarian to remove a cat's toe nails using a Surgical Laser in "Special Needs Situations" can have a very positive outcome for both the cat and the human who share a special bond. Therefore, I recommend that the You defeat the "Declawing Cat Bill".