

From: CLIFFNotes@legalizeferrets.org
Sent: Wednesday, March 19, 2025 12:22 PM
To: 'editor@theaggie.org'
Subject: UC Davis and Ferret Legalization – Request for The California Aggie’s Support

Dear Editors of *The California Aggie*,

I am reaching out to you as an advocate for animal welfare and responsible pet ownership, seeking your publication’s support for **Petition 2025-003**, which calls for the reclassification of domestic ferrets as a **non-prohibited species in California**.

As UC Davis is home to **California’s top veterinary school**, it is well-positioned to recognize the domestication and proper care of ferrets. The UC Davis School of Veterinary Medicine even provides **ferret-specific health guidance** on its website, reinforcing the fact that these animals are already treated as domestic pets within the veterinary community. However, despite being legal in 48 other states and most of the world, domestic ferrets remain banned in California under outdated and unscientific regulations.

Ferrets are **ideal pets for university students** due to their small size, social nature, and suitability for apartment living. It is especially ironic that while UC Davis students can access medical care for their pet ferrets, they cannot legally own them in California.

Our petition, currently before the **California Fish and Game Commission**, is grounded in **scientific research, veterinary support, and legal precedent**. The key facts include:

- Domestic ferrets have been selectively bred for companionship for over **2,000 years**, fitting California’s legal definition of a domestic species (Fish and Game Code §2116).
- There has never been a **documented feral population** of ferrets in North America, even in states where they have been legal for decades.
- A **federally approved rabies vaccine exists**, addressing outdated concerns about public health risks.
- Numerous **peer-reviewed environmental studies** confirm that domestic ferrets pose **no significant threat to native wildlife** or ecosystems.

As *The California Aggie* is an independent, student-run publication at UC Davis, you are in a unique position to **highlight this issue to the university community**. We would greatly appreciate your **endorsement of Petition 2025-003** and your **coverage of this important policy change**.

Would you be open to writing a piece on this topic or formally supporting the petition? I would be happy to provide more information, supporting documents, or schedule an interview to discuss this further.

Thank you for your time and for considering this important issue. I look forward to your response.

Our petition under consideration at the Fish and Game Commission is at <https://www.legalizeferrets.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/02/Petition-FGC1.pdf>

Our supporting exhibits are at <https://www.legalizeferrets.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/02/AllExhibits.pdf>

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