

The Cat Fanciers' Association, Inc.  
**2011 BREED COUNCIL POLL**

**TOTAL MEMBERS – 10**

**BALLOTS RECEIVED – 6**

**60% OF VOTING - 4**

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**SINGAPURA**

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1. **POLL:** Are you in favor of the outcross proposal (Proposal 2) as proposed by the Burmese Breed Council?

**PROPOSED:** *Allow the Burmese breed to be outcrossed to the Singapura breed for a period of 5 or 10 years.*

**RATIONALE:** *The genetic health of the Burmese breed is currently at risk. Dr. Leslie Lyons reported in "The Ascent of Cat Breeds," published in Genomics in 2008:*

*"The Burmese and Singapura breeds have the lowest heterozygosity [genetic diversity] and the highest FIS [inbreeding coefficient] of any breed, reflecting the most intense inbreeding. ... Given these results, Burmese and Singapura breeders should be concerned about genetic diversity."*

*In addition to Dr. Lyons' genetic study, CFA statistics point towards a marked decline in registered Burmese. The number of Burmese kittens reported dropped from 987 in 2008 to 741 in 2010 (the most recent year for which data was available). This represents a 25% drop in just 2 years. Additionally, on an individual level, breeders are reporting less hearty litters, smaller adults, smaller litters, and immune system problems, all of which point towards inbreeding depression becoming more common.*

*The Singapura breed originated in a closely neighboring area to where the Burmese was originally founded and Dr. Leslie Lyons has determined that both breeds are genetically very similar. This breed, therefore, shares common characteristics in both type and origin. It is believed that allowing the Burmese breed to outcross to this breed, along with native Thai cats (which as already been approved), will significantly increase our ability to restore the health and vigor of the Burmese breed with little to no impact on type.*

0 Yes through December 31, 2016 (5 years)

1 Yes through December 31, 2021 (10 years)

5 No

0 Abstain

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Ballots must be returned in the envelope provided and be RECEIVED in the Central Office by Thursday, December 15, 2011.

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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