

ing or forgery committed before this section takes effect shall continue and be of the same force and effect as if said law had not been repealed.

#### **Cruelty to Animals.**

1900, ch. 463.

**46 E.** Whenever a fine is imposed in any such case by any court or justice of the peace, one-half thereof shall be paid to the Maryland Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals of Baltimore City, in case there shall be no society of similar character in the county, city or town where the offense shall have been committed, in which latter event the said one-half of the fine shall be paid to the said local society; and any officer of said society, or any society or association for the prevention of cruelty to animals, duly incorporated under the laws of this State, shall upon his own view of any misdemeanor in relation to cruelty to animals make arrests and bring before any magistrate or justice of the peace offenders found violating the laws of this State in relation to cruelty to animals.

1900, ch. 456.

**46 J.** Any officer or agent of the Maryland Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, or of any society or association for the prevention of cruelty to animals, duly incorporated under the laws of this State, may take charge of any animal found abandoned that may appear to be diseased or disabled beyond recovery for any useful purpose, and thereupon shall, as quickly as may be, cause such animal to be appraised under oath by two reputable citizens, who shall view the same in his presence, and determine its value; and if such appraised value does not exceed five dollars, such officer may at once cause said animal to be killed in a humane manner; said society shall thereupon be indebted to the owner for the amount of its value, except when the appraisers determine that the death of the animal was rendered necessary by the owner's wilful abandonment or cruelty; said appraisers shall thereupon make oath to a certificate of their finding as to abandonment, value and necessity of death of said animal before a justice of the peace or notary public, which certificate shall be in writing and be evidence of the truth of the matter contained therein.