

of a kennel license being to relieve owners of dogs kept at a kennel and never being allowed to run at large from the necessity of taking out individual licenses for such dogs.

(c) The Board of County Commissioners shall have the right to reduce the cost of any or each class of license fees not to exceed fifty percent (50%) if, in the discretion of the Board, such reduction is necessary and proper.

256C. (Penalties and Fines for Delinquent Licenses.) Any license either individual or kennel that is not procured before March 1st or within thirty days from the time when by the provisions of this sub-title it is due and payable shall have added to it as a penalty for such delinquency an amount equal to 25% of the regular annual fee for each month or fraction of a month of such delinquency; and any person violating either by failing or refusing to comply with any of the provisions of Section 256B shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction thereof before any justice of the peace of Anne Arundel County or in the Circuit Court of said County, shall be subjected to a minimum fine of not less than Five Dollars (\$5.00) and not more than Twenty-five Dollars (\$25.00) or shall be imprisoned in the County Jail for not more than thirty days, or shall be both fined and imprisoned in the discretion of the Court. It shall be the duty of the State's Attorney, the Sheriff, the County Police, and the Wardens of the County to prosecute all persons found violating the law by failing or refusing to comply with its provisions. Provided, however, that the Board of County Commissioners shall have the right, in their discretion, to extend the time for procuring licenses until April 1st and no longer.

Payment of the license tax subsequent to the issuance of a summons or warrant by a magistrate or other court for failure to do so within the time required shall not operate to relieve said owner from the penalties provided. Any dog not wearing a license tag of the proper calendar year shall prima facie be deemed to be unlicensed and in any proceedings under this sub-title the burden of proof of the fact that such a dog has been licensed, or is otherwise not required to wear a tag at the time, shall be on the owner of said dog.

256J (a). (Destruction of and Reimbursement for Domestic Animals.) Owners of property seeking compensation from the County are charged with the duty of providing reasonable care and protection for their animals and the requirements of this section are to be construed strictly.