

194.

(i) (1) The County Commissioners of Washington County are authorized and empowered by rule, regulation or resolution to provide that owners of dogs in the county shall not permit the dog, whether licensed or unlicensed, to run at large off the premises of the owner, except when it is under the control of the owner or an authorized agent of the owner by leash, cord or chain, provided that the following dogs may be permitted to run at large when accompanied by the owner or an authorized agent and when kept within sight or calling distance:

- 1. Dogs proved to be obedient, in accordance with any regulation or resolution of the county commissioners,*
- 2. Dogs being used for hunting, or trained for hunting, and*
- 3. Dogs being accompanied by the owner on horseback.*

(2) The County Commissioners by rule, regulation or resolution may provide for investigation of reports of violations of paragraph (a) and for enforcement of the provisions of this subsection.

(3) Any owner failing to comply with the provisions of this section shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction thereof shall be subject to a fine of not more than twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) for each offense.

197.

All monies arising from the dog licenses or taxes shall be kept in a separate fund by the treasurer of the respective counties, or tax collecting office thereof, and shall be used for the payment of damages for the injury and killing of sheep, poultry or other livestock in said respective counties. In the event the same are not sufficient for the payment of all such damages the said damages shall be paid in the order the claims are presented, and any person or persons whose claims are not paid in any one year by reason of the lack of money to the credit of the said fund, which is to be designated "the dog license fund," shall be paid out of the first money coming into the fund after his claim is reached, and shall be paid in the order in which said claims are proved and filed; and any claims now filed and passed upon, but remaining unpaid, shall have preference over any new claims in the order of payment. The county commissioners of the several counties are hereby authorized to expend any funds in excess of one thousand dollars (\$1,000) remaining in the hands of the treasurer or the tax collecting officer after the payment of the claims as aforesaid, for any public purpose which, in their judgment, may seem right and proper, and are further empowered, whenever in their judgment it may become necessary to do so, to enter into a contract or agreement with such persons, association of persons or corporations as they may deem suitable, for the removal, care and disposition of unlicensed dogs, or licensed dogs which may create a menace to the safety, security and property of the residents of said counties, on such terms and conditions and for such compensation as may be agreed to by the said county commissioners and such persons, association of persons or corporations. In Harford County the County Commissioners are authorized to utilize one half of the "dog license fund" each year to defray in whole or in part the enforcement of the