

194.

(1) (1) In addition to and not in substitution for any powers granted under this subtitle, the County Commissioners of Harford County by resolution or ordinance enacted according to its usual procedure may provide for a comprehensive system for regulation of dogs in the county, including licensing and control of dogs. As a part of such regulation the County [Commissioner] Commissioners may establish [.] separate dog control districts in the county with regulations applicable solely within the district, provide for the impounding and disposal of dogs found to be dangerous to persons and property, and provide reasonable penalties for violations of any regulations applicable to dogs.

(2) It is unlawful in Harford County for any person to own or keep a dog which disturbs the peace and quiet of any neighborhood in an inhabited area, or which is vicious and bites any person. Upon the sworn complaint before the People's Court of Harford County of any two or more persons of different households alleging that a dog disturbs the peace and quiet of any neighborhood in an inhabited area of Harford County, or upon the sworn complaint of any one or more persons that a dog is vicious and has bitten any person, a summons shall issue to the owner or keeper of such dog to appear before the People's Court. Upon proof that the dog disturbs the peace and quiet of any neighborhood in an inhabited area, or is vicious and has bitten any person, the owner or keeper shall be required to deliver up the offending dog to be killed in the most humane manner possible, unless he removes the dog permanently from the neighborhood. If the owner or keeper is required to deliver up the dog to be killed or to remove it as aforesaid, and he refuses or fails to do so, then it is the duty of any police officer or any duly empowered agent on behalf of the county to seize the dog wherever it may be found and to cause it to be killed in the most humane manner possible. Any owner failing to comply with the provisions of this paragraph is 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. Notwithstanding the foregoing provisions of this subsection, the barking of hunting dogs in pursuit of game shall not be considered a disturbance of the public peace for the purposes hereof.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That this Act shall take effect June 1, 1967.

Approved March 24, 1967.

CHAPTER 50

(Senate Bill 245)

AN ACT to repeal and re-enact, with amendments, Section 9B(a) of Article 25 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1966 Replacement Volume), title "County Commissioners," subtitle "General Provisions," correcting an error in the law relating to the authority of the County Commissioners of Calvert County to acquire real or leasehold property for public use, to erect buildings thereon,