

CHAPTER 122

(Senate Bill 116)

AN ACT concerning

Sale of Pets - Puppies and Kittens

FOR the purpose of prohibiting the importation for sale or distribution and the sale or distribution of certain puppies and kittens and providing a penalty for violation and providing for the disposal of the puppies and kittens.

BY adding to

Article 27 - Crimes and Punishments
Section 60B
Annotated Code of Maryland
(1971 Replacement Volume and 1974 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That new Section 60B be and it is hereby added to Article 27 - Crimes and Punishments, of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1971 Replacement Volume and 1974 Supplement) to read as follows:

Article 27 - Crimes and Punishments

60B.

NO PERSON MAY [[BRING INTO THE STATE FOR PURPOSES OF SALE ANY DOG OR CAT UNDER THE AGE OF EIGHT WEEKS UNLESS THE ANIMAL IS ACCOMPANIED BY ITS DAM]] SELL OR DISTRIBUTE IN MARYLAND OR BRING INTO THIS STATE FOR PURPOSES OF SALE OR DISTRIBUTION ANY DOMESTIC DOG (CANIS FAMILIARIS) OR CAT (FELIS CATUS) LESS THAN EIGHT WEEKS OF AGE UNLESS ACCOMPANIED BY ITS DAM. THIS PROVISION SHALL NOT APPLY TO ANIMALS USED BY BIOMEDICAL FACILITIES LICENSED BY THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND ANIMALS WHICH ARE ACCOMPANIED BY A LICENSED VETERINARIAN'S SIGNED STATEMENT SETTING FORTH THAT THE DAM IS INCAPACITATED FOR HUMANE OR MEDICAL REASONS AND CANNOT CARE FOR HER OFF-SPRING. ANY PERSON VIOLATING THIS SECTION IS GUILTY OF A MISDEMEANOR AND SUBJECT TO A FINE OF NOT MORE THAN \$500 AND THE COURT MAY TAKE POSSESSION OF THE ANIMAL FOR PURPOSES OF HUMANE DISPOSAL.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 1975.