

OR BENEFIT.

SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 1978.

Approved May 16, 1978.

CHAPTER 600

(House Bill 484)

AN ACT concerning

Agriculture - Dog and Cat Overpopulation

FOR the purpose of requiring the Department of Agriculture to provide certain services concerning dog and cat overpopulation; and providing for an automatic expiration date for this Act.

BY adding to

Article - Agriculture
Section 2-108
Annotated Code of Maryland
(1974 Volume and 1977 Supplement)

Preamble

WHEREAS, The Maryland Department of Agriculture estimates that over one-half million homeless dogs and cats are put to death in Maryland annually;

WHEREAS, The Maryland Department of Agriculture already oversees the dispensation of the killing drug pentobarbital to those agencies who use it to euthanize these homeless dogs and cats; now, therefore,

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That section(s) of the Annotated Code of Maryland be repealed, amended, or enacted to read as follows:

Article - Agriculture

2-108.

THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE SHALL CONDUCT A PUBLIC INFORMATION PROGRAM ON THE OVERPOPULATION OF DOGS AND CATS AND RELATED PROBLEMS. THE DEPARTMENT SHALL COLLECT FROM PUBLIC AND PRIVATE ANIMAL CONTROL AGENCIES AND FACILITIES STATISTICS CONCERNING THE NUMBERS OF THESE ANIMALS AND THEIR DISPOSAL, AND SHALL ISSUE A QUARTERLY PRESS RELEASE ON THE