

SECTION 2 ~~3~~ 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 1979.

Approved May 14, 1979.

CHAPTER 342

(House Bill 559)

AN ACT concerning

Euthanasia of Dogs and Cats

FOR the purpose of prohibiting the killing of dogs and cats by certain methods; ~~providing for the killing of dogs and cats by a certain method if certain requirements have been met~~, providing a penalty for violations; and generally relating to the humane killing of dogs and cats.

BY adding to

Article 27 - Crimes and Punishments
Section 59A
Annotated Code of Maryland
(1976 Replacement Volume and 1978 Supplement)

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 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That section(s) of the Annotated Code of Maryland be repealed, amended, or enacted to read as follows: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 27 - Crimes and Punishments

59A.

(A) A PERSON, ~~PEACE OFFICER, OFFICER OR STAFF OF A HUMANE SOCIETY, OR OFFICER OR STAFF OF A POUND OR ANIMAL REGULATION DEPARTMENT OF A PUBLIC AGENCY~~ MAY NOT KILL OR PERMIT TO BE KILLED A DOG OR CAT BY THE FOLLOWING MEANS:

(1) USE OF THE HIGH-ALTITUDE, LOW-PRESSURE CHAMBER (COMMONLY KNOWN AS DECOMPRESSION CHAMBER);

(2) USE OF CARBON MONOXIDE GAS ~~EXCEPT AS BY THE STANDARDS OF THE AMERICAN VETERINARY MEDICAL ASSOCIATION;~~

~~(B) IF AN ANIMAL IS SUSPECTED EITHER OF BITING A HUMAN BEING OR OF BEING RABID, DISPOSITION OF THAT ANIMAL IS GOVERNED BY THE SUBTITLE "RABIES" OF ARTICLE 43 OF THE CODE;~~

~~(C) (3) CURARIFORM DRUGS MAY NOT BE USED TO EUTHANIZE A DOG OR CAT.~~