

CHAPTER 406

(House Bill 988)

AN ACT concerning

Sale of Certain Animals as Household Pets

FOR the purpose of prohibiting a person from offering for sale, trade, barter, import, or exchange as a household pet certain animals; providing that certain persons may import certain animals; providing a certain exemption; and generally relating to the sale of these certain animals.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article 27 - Crimes and Punishments
Section 70D(a)
Annotated Code of Maryland
(1976 Replacement Volume and 1980 Supplement)

BY adding to

Article 27 - Crimes and Punishments
Section 70D(c)
Annotated Code of Maryland
(1976 Replacement Volume and 1980 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 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That section(s) of the Annotated Code of Maryland be repealed, amended, or enacted to read as follows: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

70D.

(a) A person may not IMPORT INTO MARYLAND, offer for sale, trade, barter or exchange as a household pet any live fox, [or] skunk, RACCOON, BEAR, ALLIGATOR, CAYMAN, CROCODILE, POISONOUS SNAKE, OR MEMBER OF THE CAT FAMILY OTHER THAN THE DOMESTIC CAT, OR RACCOON. However, a person may offer THESE SPECIES for sale, trade, barter, IMPORT, or exchange to a public zoo, park, museum, or educational institution for educational, medical, scientific, or exhibition purposes [a fox or skunk].

(C) EXEMPTED FROM THIS SUBSECTION ARE THOSE SPECIES OF WILDLIFE REGULATED NOT BEING KEPT AS HOUSEHOLD PETS AND WHICH ARE INDIVIDUALLY EXEMPTED BY A PERMIT ISSUED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 1981.