

Approved April 14, 1981.

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CHAPTER 75

(House Bill 1736)

AN ACT concerning

St. Mary's County - Female Dogs "In Heat"

FOR the purpose of providing that in St. Mary's County the owner of a female dog "in heat" shall adequately confine the dog; and providing for a criminal penalty for violation of this Act.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

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 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That section(s) of the Annotated Code of Maryland be repealed, amended, or enacted to read as follows: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

70B.

In Howard County AND IN ST. MARY'S COUNTY the owner or custodian of an unspayed female dog shall be required to confine it adequately when in oestrus or in a condition commonly known as "in heat." Adequate confinement is understood to mean -- beginning soon enough and continuing long enough (this period is generally accepted to be twenty-one days), and made secure enough to provide protection from contact with roaming dogs, the attraction of dogs to the premises, and/or the migration of dogs.

Any person violating this section shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction thereof shall be fined not less than \$10.00 nor more than \$50.00.

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

Approved April 14, 1981.

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