

Approved May 16, 2006.

CHAPTER 468

(House Bill 704)

AN ACT concerning

Criminal Law - Prohibition Against Wild Animals

FOR the purpose of expanding the list of animals that a person is prohibited from importing into the State, offering for sale, trading, bartering, or exchanging; prohibiting the possession or breeding of certain animals; expanding the list of exceptions to the prohibition on importing into the State, offering for sale, trading, bartering, possessing, breeding, or exchanging certain animals; providing for the enforcement of the prohibition by certain entities; authorizing the seizure of certain animals under certain circumstances; establishing procedures relating to the seizure of certain animals, including provisions for notice, hearings, costs, and the return of the animal under certain circumstances; providing for the disposition of certain animals under certain circumstances; establishing certain procedures when the owner of a certain animal dies under certain circumstances; and generally relating to wild animals.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article - Criminal Law

Section 10-621

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2002 Volume and 2005 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article - Criminal Law

10-621.

(a) (1) This section does not apply to [a person who:

(i) offers the species listed in subsection (b) of this section for sale, trade, barter, import, or exchange to a public zoo, park, museum, or educational institution; or

(ii) holds a valid State or federal permit to use the species listed in subsection (b) of this section for educational, medical, scientific, or exhibition purposes.

(2) This section does not apply to an animal of a species of wildlife not kept as a household pet that is individually exempted from this section under a permit issued by the Department of Natural Resources]: