CHAPTER 358

(House Bill 104)

AN ACT concerning

Secretary of Agriculture – Animal Health – Reports

FOR the purpose of requiring the Secretary of Agriculture to maintain certain animal health reports in a ~~certain~~ manner that protects the identity of the animal owner; ~~providing for the application of this Act~~ authorizing the disclosure of the identity of the animal owner if the Secretary makes a certain determination; *requiring the Secretary to consult with the Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene in making a certain determination*; and generally relating to the responsibilities of the Secretary of Agriculture relating to animal health reports.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
    Article – Agriculture
    Section 3–101
    Annotated Code of Maryland
    (1999 Replacement Volume and 2004 Supplement)

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

Article – Agriculture

3–101.

(a)   The Secretary shall protect the health of the domestic animals of the State from all contagious or infectious diseases. For this purpose, the Secretary may:

(1)   Adopt and enforce quarantine, sanitary, or other rules and regulations he deems necessary;

(2)   Make and prosecute diligent inquiries in the several counties to ascertain the exact condition of the health of the livestock; and

(3)   Notwithstanding § 3–102, prohibit the importation from another state of any animal he has reason to believe is infected with or has been exposed to a contagious or infectious disease and detain the animal at any place for inspection or quarantine.

(b)   The Secretary may establish, maintain, and enforce a quarantine order if he determines it is urgent and necessary for the prompt performance of the provisions provided in this section.

(c)   The Secretary may adopt rules and regulations governing the importation of domestic animals into the State from another state.

(D)   (1)   EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION, THE SECRETARY SHALL MAINTAIN ALL ANIMAL HEALTH DIAGNOSTIC OR ANALYTICAL