

(3) (I) "PET" means a domesticated animal.

[(2)] (II) "Pet" does not include livestock.

(b) (1) [The measure of damages for tortious injuries to or death of a pet is the market value of the pet before the injury or death or the reasonable cost of veterinary care, but not more than \$5,000 if such charge is greater] A PERSON WHO TORTIOUSLY CAUSES AN INJURY TO OR DEATH OF A PET WHILE ACTING INDIVIDUALLY OR THROUGH AN ANIMAL UNDER THE PERSON'S DIRECTION OR CONTROL IS LIABLE TO THE OWNER OF THE PET FOR COMPENSATORY DAMAGES.

(2) THE DAMAGES AWARDED UNDER PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION MAY NOT EXCEED ~~\$10,000~~ \$7,500.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall be construed to apply only prospectively and may not be applied or interpreted to have any effect on or application to any cause of action that arises before the effective date of this Act.

SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2005.

May 26, 2005

The Honorable Thomas V. Mike Miller, Jr.
President of the Senate
State House
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Mr. President:

In accordance with Article II, Section 17 of the Maryland Constitution, today I have vetoed Senate Bill 348 – *Circuit Court Real Property Records Improvement Fund – Duration*.

This bill extends the termination date of the Circuit Court Real Property Records Improvement Fund from June 30, 2006, to June 30, 2009.

House Bill 640, which was passed by the General Assembly and signed by me, accomplishes the same purpose. Therefore, it is not necessary for me to sign Senate Bill 348.

Very truly yours,
Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr.
Governor

Senate Bill No. 348

AN ACT concerning

Circuit Court Real Property Records Improvement Fund – Duration

FOR the purpose of altering the termination date of provisions of law relating to the