

CHAPTER 71
(House Bill 905)

AN ACT concerning

Washington County Animal Control Ordinance - Violations

FOR the purpose of providing that a violation of the Washington County animal control ordinance is a misdemeanor carrying certain penalties; authorizing an animal control officer in Washington County to issue certain citations for certain violations of the Washington County animal control ordinance; providing for the contents of certain citations issued for a violation of the Washington County animal control ordinance; providing for the legal rights of certain individuals who receive certain citations for a violation of the Washington County animal control ordinance; providing for certain penalties if certain fines are not paid by a certain date; providing for the manner under which certain hearings are conducted; providing that the Washington County Board of County Commissioners may authorize certain individuals to prosecute certain violations of the Washington County animal control ordinance; providing that if the Washington County District Court makes certain findings, certain individuals are liable for certain damages; defining a certain term; and generally relating to violations of the Washington County animal control ordinance.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article 25 - County Commissioners

Section 236A

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2001 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 25 - County Commissioners

236A.

(A) IN THIS SECTION, "ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER" MEANS A COUNTY EMPLOYEE OR A CONTRACT EMPLOYEE HIRED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF WASHINGTON COUNTY WHO IS AUTHORIZED:

(1) TO PROVIDE ANIMAL CONTROL SERVICES; AND

(2) TO ISSUE CITATIONS FOR VIOLATIONS OF ANIMAL CONTROL ORDINANCES IN WASHINGTON COUNTY.

(B) The County Commissioners for Washington County may adopt an animal control ordinance to:

(1) Create a quasi-judicial deliberative animal control authority for Washington County to: