

veterinary care, proper drink, air, space, shelter or protection from the weather; OR (4) USES OR PERMITS A DOG TO BE USED IN, ARRANGES OR CONDUCTS A DOGFIGHT; OR (5) [,or] uses or permits to be used any bird, fowl, or cock for the purpose of fighting with any other animal which is commonly known as cockfighting, is guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be punishable by a fine not exceeding \$1,000 or by imprisonment not to exceed 90 days, or both. Customary and normal veterinary and agricultural husbandry practices including but not limited to dehorning, castration, docking tails, and limit feeding, are not covered by the provisions of this section. In the case of activities in which physical pain may unavoidably be caused to animals, such as food processing, pest elimination, animal training, and hunting, cruelty shall mean a failure to employ the most humane method reasonably available. It is the intention of the General Assembly that all animals shall be protected from intentional cruelty, but that no person shall be liable for criminal prosecution for normal human activities to which the infliction of pain to an animal is purely incidental and unavoidable.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 1984.

Approved May 29, 1984.

CHAPTER 610

(House Bill 333)

AN ACT concerning

Unemployment Insurance - Standard Tax Rate

FOR the purpose of increasing the standard employer contribution rate and the maximum basic employer tax rate.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article 95A - Unemployment Insurance Law
Section 8(c)
Annotated Code of Maryland
(1979 Replacement Volume and 1983 Supplement)

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

Article 95A - Unemployment Insurance Law