

by the county commissioners. Such license shall be dated and numbered, and shall contain a description of the dog licensed. Except in Carroll County, Montgomery County [and], Howard County, AND WASHINGTON COUNTY, all licenses shall be void upon the first day of July of the following year. The county commissioners shall also furnish, and the county treasurer, or tax collecting officer issuing the license, shall issue, with each license, a metal tag. Such tag shall be affixed to a substantial collar. The collar shall be furnished by the owner, and with the tag attached shall at all times be kept on the dog for which the license is issued, except when confined in the kennel or when hunting in charge of an attendant.

[(i) (1) In Washington County the fees for dogs shall be determined by the County Commissioners of the County.

(2) (i) Notwithstanding subsection (a) of this section, the County Commissioners of Washington County may provide by ordinance that a dog license shall expire when a rabies vaccination certification issued under § 18-319(a)(3) of the Health - General Article expires.

(ii) If the County Commissioners alter the date on which dog licenses expire, the County Commissioners may provide that the fee for a dog license or the term of a license shall be prorated to reflect altered license terms.]

Article 25 - County Commissioners

236A.

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

- (1) Create an animal control authority for Washington County to:
 - (i) Enforce the provisions of the ordinance;
 - (ii) Maintain records regarding the licensing, impoundment, and disposition of animals coming into the custody of the animal control authority; and
 - (iii) Enter into contracts or agreements to provide for the disposal of animals;
- (2) Provide for the designation of animal control shelters in Washington County;
- (3) Specify rules and regulations that may include:
 - (i) The licensing of dogs, kennels, and pet shops;
 - (ii) The control of rabid animals; and
 - (iii) The disposition of uncontrolled, vicious, and sick animals; and
- (4) Provide penalties for a violation of the animal control ordinance.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 1997.