

(e) ~~The Department of the Environment, in cooperation with other appropriate State agencies, State agencies represented on the Task Force shall provide staff support for the Task Force.~~

(f) A member of the Task Force may not receive compensation for serving on the Task Force, but is entitled to reimbursement for expenses under the Standard State Travel Regulations, as provided in the State budget.

(g) A member of the Task Force who misses two meetings of the Task Force may not participate in any decision making processes or recommendations of the Task Force.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2001. It shall remain effective for a period of 1 year and 1 month and, at the end of July 31, 2002, with no further action required by the General Assembly, this Act shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.

Approved May 18, 2001.

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## CHAPTER 592

(Senate Bill 356)

AN ACT concerning

### Crimes - Aggravated Cruelty to Animals

FOR the purpose of establishing as the felony of aggravated cruelty to animals certain acts relating to the mutilation, torture, killing, or beating of an animal, certain actions relating to dogfighting and cockfighting, and certain injuries to animals owned or used by law enforcement units under certain circumstances; allowing a court to order certain psychological counseling for persons convicted of certain crimes involving cruelty to animals; establishing a certain exception for research activities under certain circumstances; repealing certain provisions relating to animal cruelty; establishing that the District Court has jurisdiction that is concurrent with a circuit court in felony cases involving cruelty to animals; making stylistic changes; and generally relating to animal cruelty.

BY repealing

Article 27 - Crimes and Punishments

Section 59

Annotated Code of Maryland

(1996 Replacement Volume and 2000 Supplement)

BY adding to

Article 27 - Crimes and Punishments

Section 59

Annotated Code of Maryland