

all animals, whether they be privately owned, strays, domesticated, feral, farm, corporately or institutionally owned, under private, local, State, or federally funded scientific or medical activities, or otherwise being situated in Maryland 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.]

59.

(A) IT IS THE INTENT OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY THAT ALL ANIMALS BE PROTECTED FROM INTENTIONAL CRUELTY IF THEY ARE:

- (1) PRIVATELY OWNED;
- (2) STRAYS;
- (3) DOMESTICATED;
- (4) FERAL;
- (5) FARM ANIMALS;
- (6) CORPORATELY OR INSTITUTIONALLY OWNED;

(7) IN PRIVATELY, LOCALLY, STATE, OR FEDERALLY FUNDED SCIENTIFIC OR MEDICAL ACTIVITIES; OR

- (8) OTHERWISE LOCATED IN THE STATE.

(B) (1) A PERSON MAY NOT:

(I) OVERDRIVE OR OVERLOAD AN ANIMAL;

(II) DEPRIVE AN ANIMAL OF NECESSARY SUSTENANCE;

(III) CAUSE, PROCURE, OR AUTHORIZE AN ACT PROHIBITED IN ITEM (I) OR ITEM (II) OF THIS PARAGRAPH;

(IV) WITH THE CHARGE OR CUSTODY OF AN ANIMAL, AS OWNER OR OTHERWISE:

1. INFLICT UNNECESSARY SUFFERING OR PAIN ON THE ANIMAL; OR

2. UNNECESSARILY FAIL TO PROVIDE THE ANIMAL WITH NUTRITIOUS FOOD IN SUFFICIENT QUANTITY, NECESSARY VETERINARY CARE, PROPER DRINK, AIR, SPACE, SHELTER, OR PROTECTION FROM THE WEATHER; OR

(V) KNOWINGLY ATTEND A DELIBERATELY CONDUCTED DOGFIGHT AS A SPECTATOR.

(2) A PERSON WHO VIOLATES THIS SUBSECTION IS GUILTY OF A MISDEMEANOR AND ON CONVICTION IS SUBJECT TO: