

Article - Courts and Judicial Proceedings**4-301.**

(b) Except as provided in § 4-302 of this subtitle, the District Court also has exclusive original jurisdiction in a criminal case in which a person at least 18 years old or a corporation is charged with:

(13) Violation of Article 27, § 388A of the Code; [or]

(14) Violation of Title 11, Subtitle 5 of the Financial Institutions Article;

OR

(15) VIOLATION OF ARTICLE 27, § 59 OF THE CODE, WHETHER FELONY OR MISDEMEANOR.

4-302.

(a) Except as provided in § 4-301(b)(2), (6), (7), (8), (9), (10), (11), (12), (13), [and] (14), AND (15) of this subtitle, the District Court does not have jurisdiction to try a criminal case charging the commission of a felony.

(d) (1) Except as provided in paragraph (2) of this subsection, the jurisdiction of the District Court is concurrent with that of the circuit court in a criminal case:

(i) In which the penalty may be confinement for three years or more or a fine of \$2,500 or more; or

(ii) Which is a felony, as provided in § 4-301(b)(2), (6), (7), (8), (9), (10), (11), (12), (13), [and] (14), AND (15) of this subtitle.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2001.

Approved May 18, 2001.

CHAPTER 593

(House Bill 649)

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; repealing certain provisions relating to animal cruelty; establishing that the District Court has jurisdiction that is concurrent with a circuit court in felony cases