

State House
Annapolis MD 21401

Dear Mr. President:

In accordance with Article II, Section 17 of the Maryland Constitution, I have today vetoed Senate Bill 696 - Dorchester County - Animal Control - Civil Penalties.

This bill authorizes the Commissioners of Dorchester County to impose civil or criminal penalties for violations of county animal control or ordinances.

House Bill 600, which was passed by the General Assembly and signed by me, accomplishes the same purpose. Therefore, it is not necessary for me to sign Senate Bill 696.

Sincerely,
Parris N. Glendening
Governor

Senate Bill No. 696

AN ACT concerning

Dorchester County - ~~Dog~~ Animal Control - Civil Penalties

FOR the purpose of ~~authorizing~~ establishing that the County Commissioners of Dorchester County ~~to may~~ impose civil penalties for violations of county animal control ordinances; authorizing the County Commissioners to provide for the prosecution of a violation of certain county animal control ordinances in a certain manner and to a certain extent; and generally relating to animal control violation penalties in Dorchester County.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
Article 24 - Political Subdivisions - Miscellaneous Provisions
Section 11-504(o)
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2001 Replacement Volume)

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

Article 24 - Political Subdivisions - Miscellaneous Provisions

11-504.

(o) (4) (1) In addition to and not in substitution for any powers granted under this subtitle, the county commissioners of Dorchester, Garrett, and Somerset counties may by ordinance provide for a comprehensive system for the regulation of dogs and cats within the county, including licensing and control. These regulations may include provision for the impounding and disposal of unlicensed or dangerous dogs and cats and penalties, INCLUDING IN DORCHESTER COUNTY CIVIL OR CRIMINAL PENALTIES, for violations of any of the provisions of the regulations.