

SENATE BILL 659

E1

(4lr2830)

ENROLLED BILL

— Judicial Proceedings/Judiciary —

Introduced by **Senator Gladden**

Read and Examined by Proofreaders:

Proofreader.

Proofreader.

Sealed with the Great Seal and presented to the Governor, for his approval this

_____ day of _____ at _____ o'clock, _____ M.

President.

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Crimes Relating to Animals – Surgery on Dogs – Penalties**

3 FOR the purpose of prohibiting a person, other than a licensed veterinarian, ~~or a~~
4 ~~registered veterinary technician employed by and under the supervision of a~~
5 ~~licensed veterinarian,~~ using anesthesia when appropriate, from performing
6 certain procedures on a dog; ~~prohibiting a person other than a licensed~~
7 ~~veterinarian from performing a certain procedure on a dog;~~ establishing
8 penalties for a violation of this Act; and generally relating to crimes relating to
9 animals.

10 BY adding to

11 Article – Criminal Law

12 Section 10–624

13 Annotated Code of Maryland

14 (2012 Replacement Volume and 2013 Supplement)

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.

Italics indicate opposite chamber/conference committee amendments.



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

3 **Article – Criminal Law**

4 **10-624.**

5 (A) EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION, A
6 PERSON MAY NOT:

- 7 (1) CROP OR CUT OFF THE EAR OF A DOG;
8 (2) DOCK OR CUT OFF THE TAIL OF A DOG;
9 (3) CUT OFF THE DEWCLAW OF A DOG; OR
10 (4) SURGICALLY BIRTH A DOG.

11 (B) ~~(1)~~ A PROCEDURE DESCRIBED IN ~~SUBSECTION (A)~~ SUBSECTION
12 (A)(1), (2), OR (3) SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS SECTION MAY BE PERFORMED BY A
13 LICENSED VETERINARIAN, ~~OR A REGISTERED VETERINARY TECHNICIAN~~
14 ~~EMPLOYED BY AND UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF A LICENSED VETERINARIAN,~~
15 USING ANESTHESIA WHEN APPROPRIATE ON THE ANIMAL.

16 ~~(2) A PROCEDURE DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION (A)(4) OF THIS~~
17 ~~SECTION MAY BE PERFORMED BY A LICENSED VETERINARIAN USING~~
18 ~~ANESTHESIA WHEN APPROPRIATE ON THE ANIMAL.~~

19 (C) A PERSON WHO VIOLATES THIS SECTION IS GUILTY OF A
20 MISDEMEANOR AND ON CONVICTION IS SUBJECT TO:

- 21 (1) FOR A FIRST OFFENSE, IMPRISONMENT NOT EXCEEDING 90
22 DAYS OR A FINE NOT EXCEEDING \$1,000 OR BOTH; AND
23 (2) FOR A SECOND OR SUBSEQUENT OFFENSE, IMPRISONMENT
24 NOT EXCEEDING 180 DAYS OR A FINE NOT EXCEEDING \$5,000 OR BOTH.

25 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
26 October 1, 2014.