Chapter 601

(Senate Bill 729)

AN ACT concerning

Cecil County - Regulation of Domestic Animals

FOR the purpose of authorizing the County Commissioners of Cecil County, by ordinance, to provide for certain regulation of certain domestic animals and certain hybrids of domestic and wild animals; and generally relating to the regulation of domestic animals in Cecil County.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article 24 – Political Subdivisions – Miscellaneous Provisions Section 11–511 Annotated Code of Maryland (2005 Replacement Volume and 2009 Supplement)

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 - 511.

(a) This section only applies to Carroll County, CECIL COUNTY, and Frederick County.

(b) In addition to and not in substitution for any powers granted under this article, the county commissioners, by ordinance, may provide for a comprehensive system for the regulation of domestic animals, including dogs, and wild animals held in captivity, within the county, including licensing and control.

(c) These regulations may include:

(1) Provisions for the impoundment and disposal of unlicensed or dangerous dogs;

(2) Provisions for the regulation of persons who own or keep any animal which disturbs the peace and quiet of a neighborhood, or which is vicious; and

(3) Reasonable penalties for violations of any of the provisions of the regulations, not to exceed imprisonment in the county jail for 30 days or a fine of \$500, or both.

(d) The county commissioners:

(1) May regulate animals that are hybrids of domestic or wild animals; but

(2) May not regulate or control wild animals that are not owned or kept by individuals.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2010.

Approved by the Governor, May 20, 2010.