

SENATE BILL 420

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7lr2157
CF 7lr0972

By: **Senators Hough, Jennings, Lee, Madaleno, Salling, and Young**

Introduced and read first time: January 27, 2017

Assigned to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Humane Adoption of Companion Animals Used in Research Act of 2017**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring certain research facilities using dogs or cats for certain
4 scientific research purposes to take certain steps to provide for the adoption of a dog
5 or cat under certain circumstances; authorizing certain research facilities to enter
6 into certain agreements with certain animal rescue organizations for certain
7 purposes; requiring certain research facilities to submit certain information to the
8 Secretary of Agriculture beginning on a certain date and each year thereafter;
9 defining certain terms; and generally relating to research facilities that use dogs or
10 cats.

11 BY adding to

12 Article – Agriculture

13 Section 15–101 to be under the new title “Title 15. Research Facilities That Use Dogs
14 or Cats”

15 Annotated Code of Maryland

16 (2016 Replacement Volume)

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

19 **Article – Agriculture**

20 **TITLE 15. RESEARCH FACILITIES THAT USE DOGS OR CATS.**

21 **15–101.**

22 **(A) (1) IN THIS SECTION THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS**
23 **INDICATED.**

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



(2) “ANIMAL RESCUE ORGANIZATION” INCLUDES:

(I) A NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION INCORPORATED FOR THE PURPOSE OF RESCUING ANIMALS IN NEED AND FINDING PERMANENT, ADOPTIVE HOMES FOR THE ANIMALS; AND

(II) A GOVERNMENT–OPERATED ANIMAL CONTROL UNIT THAT PROVIDES ANIMALS FOR ADOPTION.

(3) “RESEARCH FACILITY” INCLUDES:

(I) A HIGHER EDUCATION RESEARCH FACILITY;

(II) A SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH FACILITY;

(III) A MEDICAL RESEARCH FACILITY; AND

(IV) A PRODUCT TESTING FACILITY.

(4) “SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH PURPOSES” INCLUDES:

(I) INVESTIGATION;

(II) EXPERIMENTATION;

(III) INSTRUCTION; AND

(IV) TESTING.

(B) A RESEARCH FACILITY LOCATED IN THE STATE IN WHICH DOGS OR CATS ARE USED FOR SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH PURPOSES SHALL TAKE REASONABLE STEPS TO PROVIDE FOR THE ADOPTION OF A DOG OR CAT THAT IS NO LONGER NEEDED FOR SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH PURPOSES BY:

(1) ESTABLISHING A LIST OF ANIMAL RESCUE ORGANIZATIONS THAT ARE WILLING TO TAKE A DOG OR CAT FROM THE RESEARCH FACILITY; AND

(2) OFFERING THE DOG OR CAT TO THE ANIMAL RESCUE ORGANIZATIONS IDENTIFIED IN THE LIST ESTABLISHED UNDER ITEM (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION.

(C) A RESEARCH FACILITY MAY ENTER INTO A COLLABORATIVE AGREEMENT WITH AN ANIMAL RESCUE ORGANIZATION FOR THE PURPOSE OF CARRYING OUT THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SECTION.

1 **(D) BEGINNING DECEMBER 1, 2018, AND EACH YEAR THEREAFTER, A**
2 **RESEARCH FACILITY SHALL SUBMIT TO THE SECRETARY THE FOLLOWING**
3 **INFORMATION REGARDING THE PRECEDING 12-MONTH PERIOD:**

4 **(1) THE NUMBER OF DOGS OR CATS OWNED BY THE RESEARCH**
5 **FACILITY;**

6 **(2) THE NUMBER OF DOGS OR CATS USED FOR SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH**
7 **PURPOSES BY THE RESEARCH FACILITY;**

8 **(3) THE NUMBER OF DOGS OR CATS RELEASED TO AN ANIMAL RESCUE**
9 **ORGANIZATION;**

10 **(4) THE NAME OF THE ANIMAL RESCUE ORGANIZATION TO WHICH A**
11 **DOG OR CAT WAS RELEASED; AND**

12 **(5) THE LIST OF ANIMAL RESCUE ORGANIZATIONS ESTABLISHED BY**
13 **THE RESEARCH FACILITY UNDER SUBSECTION (B)(1) OF THIS SECTION.**

14 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
15 October 1, 2017.