

SENATE BILL 659

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4lr2830
CF HB 665

By: **Senator Gladden**

Introduced and read first time: January 31, 2014

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

Senate action: Adopted with floor amendments

Read second time: March 10, 2014

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)

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

17 **Article – Criminal Law**

18 **10–624.**

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

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.



1 **(1) CROP OR CUT OFF THE EAR OF A DOG;**

2 **(2) DOCK OR CUT OFF THE TAIL OF A DOG;**

3 **(3) CUT OFF THE DEWCLAW OF A DOG; OR**

4 **(4) SURGICALLY BIRTH A DOG.**

5 **(B) (1) A PROCEDURE DESCRIBED IN ~~SUBSECTION (A)~~ SUBSECTION**
6 **(A)(1), (2), OR (3) OF THIS SECTION MAY BE PERFORMED BY A LICENSED**
7 **VETERINARIAN, OR A REGISTERED VETERINARY TECHNICIAN EMPLOYED BY**
8 **AND UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF A LICENSED VETERINARIAN, USING**
9 **ANESTHESIA WHEN APPROPRIATE ON THE ANIMAL.**

10 **(2) A PROCEDURE DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION (A)(4) OF THIS**
11 **SECTION MAY BE PERFORMED BY A LICENSED VETERINARIAN USING**
12 **ANESTHESIA WHEN APPROPRIATE ON THE ANIMAL.**

13 **(C) A PERSON WHO VIOLATES THIS SECTION IS GUILTY OF A**
14 **MISDEMEANOR AND ON CONVICTION IS SUBJECT TO:**

15 **(1) FOR A FIRST OFFENSE, IMPRISONMENT NOT EXCEEDING 90**
16 **DAYS OR A FINE NOT EXCEEDING \$1,000 OR BOTH; AND**

17 **(2) FOR A SECOND OR SUBSEQUENT OFFENSE, IMPRISONMENT**
18 **NOT EXCEEDING 180 DAYS OR A FINE NOT EXCEEDING \$5,000 OR BOTH.**

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

Approved:

Governor.

President of the Senate.

Speaker of the House of Delegates.