

SENATE BILL 682

E1

4lr1647

By: **Senator Zirkin**

Introduced and read first time: January 31, 2014

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Courts – Animal–Related Crimes – Court Costs**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring a circuit court and the District Court to impose on a
4 defendant a certain additional cost in certain cases; requiring all money
5 collected from the additional costs to be paid to the Comptroller of the State;
6 requiring the Comptroller to annually pay a certain amount to each county;
7 requiring each county to use certain money for a certain purpose; defining a
8 certain term; and generally relating to court costs for animal–related crimes.

9 BY adding to

10 Article – Courts and Judicial Proceedings

11 Section 7–410

12 Annotated Code of Maryland

13 (2013 Replacement Volume and 2013 Supplement)

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

16 **Article – Courts and Judicial Proceedings**

17 **7–410.**

18 (A) IN THIS SECTION, “ANIMAL–RELATED CRIME” MEANS AN ACT
19 COMMITTED BY A PERSON IN THE STATE THAT IS A CRIME UNDER § 10–604, §
20 10–605, § 10–606, § 10–607, § 10–608, § 10–612, § 10–618, OR § 10–629 OF THE
21 CRIMINAL LAW ARTICLE.

22 (B) IN ADDITION TO ANY OTHER COSTS REQUIRED BY LAW, A CIRCUIT
23 COURT SHALL IMPOSE ON A DEFENDANT AN ADDITIONAL COST OF \$45 IN A CASE
24 IF THE DEFENDANT:

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 **(1) IS CONVICTED OF AN ANIMAL-RELATED CRIME;**

2 **(2) IS SENTENCED TO PROBATION BEFORE JUDGMENT FOR AN**
3 **ANIMAL-RELATED CRIME; OR**

4 **(3) PLEADS NOLO CONTENDERE TO AN ANIMAL-RELATED CRIME.**

5 **(C) IN ADDITION TO ANY OTHER COSTS REQUIRED BY LAW, THE**
6 **DISTRICT COURT SHALL IMPOSE ON A DEFENDANT AN ADDITIONAL COST OF**
7 **\$35 IN A CASE IF THE DEFENDANT:**

8 **(1) IS CONVICTED OF AN ANIMAL-RELATED CRIME;**

9 **(2) IS SENTENCED TO PROBATION BEFORE JUDGMENT FOR AN**
10 **ANIMAL-RELATED CRIME; OR**

11 **(3) PLEADS NOLO CONTENDERE TO AN ANIMAL-RELATED CRIME.**

12 **(D) (1) ALL MONEY COLLECTED UNDER THIS SECTION SHALL BE PAID**
13 **TO THE COMPTROLLER OF THE STATE.**

14 **(2) THE COMPTROLLER SHALL ANNUALLY PAY TO EACH COUNTY**
15 **THE AMOUNT OF THE ADDITIONAL COSTS COLLECTED UNDER THIS SECTION BY**
16 **THE CIRCUIT COURT OR THE DISTRICT COURT IN THAT COUNTY.**

17 **(3) EACH COUNTY SHALL USE THE PROCEEDS FROM THE**
18 **ADDITIONAL COSTS COLLECTED TO FUND THE COUNTY ANIMAL SHELTER.**

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