

# HOUSE BILL 781

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By: **Delegate Kramer**

Introduced and read first time: February 3, 2017

Assigned to: Economic Matters

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Retail Pet Stores – Animal Seller, Dog Cage Signs, and Records – Requirement**  
3 **Revisions**

4 FOR the purpose of requiring a retail pet store to ensure that a certain person from whom  
5 the retail pet store obtains a cat or dog has not received a certain citation on a certain  
6 report for a critical violation within a certain period of time; requiring certain  
7 information to be posted on each dog’s cage in a retail pet store; requiring a certain  
8 written record about each dog in the possession of a retail pet store to include certain  
9 information; and generally relating to requirements for retail pet stores.

10 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
11 Article – Business Regulation  
12 Section 19–702.1(b) and 19–703  
13 Annotated Code of Maryland  
14 (2015 Replacement Volume and 2016 Supplement)

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

17 **Article – Business Regulation**

18 19–702.1.

19 (b) A retail pet store shall ensure that a person under subsection (a)(3) or (4) of  
20 this section from which the retail pet store obtains a dog or cat, as of the day the retail pet  
21 store receives the dog or cat:

22 (1) holds a current license under the Animal Welfare Act from the U.S.  
23 Department of Agriculture; and

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (2) has not received from the U.S. Department of Agriculture, in  
2 accordance with an enforcement action of the laws and regulations under the federal  
3 Animal Welfare Act:

4 (i) a citation on a final inspection report for a **[direct] CRITICAL**  
5 violation within the 2-year period before the day the dog or cat is received by the retail pet  
6 store;

7 (ii) citations on two or more consecutive final inspection reports for  
8 one or more repeat noncompliant items within the 2-year period before the day the dog or  
9 cat is received by the retail pet store;

10 (iii) a citation on both of the two most recent final inspection reports  
11 for a no-access violation; or

12 (iv) three or more citations on the most recent final inspection report  
13 for separate noncompliant items other than no-access violations.

14 19-703.

15 (a) A retail pet store that sells dogs shall:

16 (1) post conspicuously on each dog's cage:

17 (i) the breed, age, and date of birth of the dog, if known;

18 (ii) **IF OBTAINED FROM A BREEDER OR DEALER**, the state in  
19 which the breeder and, if applicable, the dealer of the dog is located; **[and]**

20 (iii) **IF OBTAINED FROM A BREEDER OR DEALER**, the United  
21 States Department of Agriculture license number of the breeder and, if applicable, the  
22 dealer;

23 **(IV) IF OBTAINED FROM AN ANIMAL CONTROL UNIT, THE NAME**  
24 **OF THE ANIMAL CONTROL UNIT; AND**

25 **(V) IF OBTAINED FROM AN ANIMAL WELFARE ORGANIZATION,**  
26 **THE NAME OF THE ANIMAL WELFARE ORGANIZATION AND THE ORGANIZATION'S**  
27 **FEDERAL TAX IDENTIFICATION NUMBER;**

28 (2) maintain a written record that includes the following information about  
29 each dog in the possession of the retail pet store:

30 (i) the breed, age, and date of birth of the dog, if known;

31 (ii) the sex, color, and any identifying markings of the dog;

1 (iii) documentation of all inoculations, worming treatments, and  
2 other medical treatments, if known, including the date of the medical treatment, the  
3 diagnoses, and the name and title of the treatment provider;

4 (iv) **IF OBTAINED FROM A BREEDER OR DEALER**, the name and  
5 address of:

6 1. the breeder and, if applicable, the dealer who supplied the  
7 dog;

8 2. the facility where the dog was born; and

9 3. the transporter or carrier of the dog, if any;

10 (v) **IF OBTAINED FROM A BREEDER OR DEALER**, the United  
11 States Department of Agriculture license number of the breeder and, if applicable, the  
12 dealer;

13 **(VI) IF OBTAINED FROM AN ANIMAL CONTROL UNIT, THE NAME**  
14 **AND ADDRESS OF THE ANIMAL CONTROL UNIT;**

15 **(VII) IF OBTAINED FROM AN ANIMAL WELFARE ORGANIZATION,**  
16 **THE NAME AND ADDRESS OF THE ANIMAL WELFARE ORGANIZATION;**

17 [(vi)] **(VIII)** any identifier information, including a tag, tattoo, collar  
18 number, or microchip; and

19 [(vii)] **(IX)** if the dog is being sold as registered or registrable:

20 1. the names and registration numbers of the sire and dam;  
21 and

22 2. the litter number; and

23 (3) for each dog acquired by the retail pet store, maintain a written record  
24 of the health, status, and disposition of the dog, including any documents that are required  
25 at the time of sale.

26 (b) A retail pet store shall maintain a copy of the records required under  
27 subsection (a)(2) of this section for at least 2 years after the date of sale of the dog.

28 (c) A retail pet store shall make the records required under subsection (a)(2) of  
29 this section available to:

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- 1                   (1)    the Division of Consumer Protection of the Office of the Attorney  
2 General on reasonable notice;
- 3                   (2)    any bona fide prospective purchaser on request;
- 4                   (3)    the purchaser at the time of a sale; and
- 5                   (4)    an animal control unit.

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