

May 26, 2017

The Honorable Thomas V. Mike Miller, Jr.  
President of the Senate  
H-107 State House  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Mr. President:

In accordance with Article II, Section 17 of the Maryland Constitution, I have vetoed Senate Bill 631 – *Criminal Law – Animal Abuse Emergency Compensation Fund – Establishment*.

This bill establishes the Animal Abuse Emergency Compensation Fund to assist in paying costs associated with the removal and care of animals impounded under the State's animal abuse and neglect law. This bill provides for the uses, purposes, sources of funding, investment of money, and auditing of the Fund, and also authorizes the Executive Director of the Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention to administer the Fund.

House Bill 941, which was passed by the General Assembly and signed by me, accomplishes the same purpose. Therefore, it is not necessary for me to sign Senate Bill 631.

Sincerely,

Lawrence J. Hogan, Jr.  
Governor