

SENATE BILL 625

C2

0lr1273

By: **Senators Kramer, Beidle, Benson, Feldman, Guzzone, Hayes, Hershey, Klausmeier, Lam, Lee, Washington, West, and Young**

Introduced and read first time: February 3, 2020

Assigned to: Finance

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Business Regulation – Retail Pet Stores – Internet Sales of Domestic Animals**
3 **(No More Puppy– and Kitten–Mills Act of 2020)**

4 FOR the purpose of altering the definition of “retail pet store” to include a for–profit
5 establishment that, by Internet transaction, sells domestic animals to be kept as
6 household pets for purposes of certain provisions of law regulating retail pet stores;
7 and generally relating to retail pet stores.

8 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
9 Article – Business Regulation
10 Section 19–701(a) and 19–703
11 Annotated Code of Maryland
12 (2015 Replacement Volume and 2019 Supplement)

13 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
14 Article – Business Regulation
15 Section 19–701(g)
16 Annotated Code of Maryland
17 (2015 Replacement Volume and 2019 Supplement)

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

20 **Article – Business Regulation**

21 19–701.

22 (a) In this subtitle the following words have the meanings indicated.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (g) "Retail pet store" means:

2 (1) a for-profit establishment open to the public that sells or offers for sale
3 domestic animals to be kept as household pets; AND

4 (2) A FOR-PROFIT ESTABLISHMENT THAT, BY INTERNET
5 TRANSACTION, SELLS DOMESTIC ANIMALS TO BE KEPT AS HOUSEHOLD PETS.

6 19-703.

7 (a) A retail pet store may not offer for sale or otherwise transfer or dispose of cats
8 or dogs.

9 (b) This section may not be construed to prohibit a retail pet store from
10 collaborating with an animal welfare organization or animal control unit to offer space for
11 these entities to showcase cats or dogs for adoption.

12 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
13 1, 2020.