E1 0lr2562 CF 0lr2720

By: Senator Waldstreicher

Introduced and read first time: February 3, 2020

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

A BILL ENTITLED

2 Criminal Law – Humane Society and Animal Control Officers – Education and Training Requirements

- FOR the purpose of requiring an officer of a humane society and an animal control officer to receive certain training within a certain period of time of employment; requiring an officer of a humane society and an animal control officer to complete certain continuing education at a certain time; and generally relating to education and training requirements for humane society and animal control officers.
- 9 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
- 10 Article Criminal Law
- 11 Section 10–609
- 12 Annotated Code of Maryland
- 13 (2012 Replacement Volume and 2019 Supplement)
- 14 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
- 15 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

16 Article - Criminal Law

- 17 10–609.
- 18 (a) Except as provided in subsections (b) and (c) of this section, if an officer of a 19 humane society sees a person committing a misdemeanor that involves cruelty to an 20 animal, the officer shall arrest and bring before the District Court the person committing 21 the misdemeanor.
- 22 (b) In Calvert County, if an officer of a humane society or an animal control officer 23 appointed by the County Commissioners or the County Commissioners' designee sees a 24 person committing a misdemeanor that involves cruelty to an animal, the officer shall 25 arrest and bring before the District Court the person committing the misdemeanor.



- 1 (c) In Baltimore County, the Baltimore County Department of Health, Division 2 of Animal Control shall enforce this section.
- 3 (D) (1) WITHIN THE FIRST 12 MONTHS OF EMPLOYMENT, AN OFFICER OF
 4 A HUMANE SOCIETY OR AN ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER SHALL SATISFACTORILY
 5 COMPLETE AT LEAST 80 HOURS OF TRAINING FOR ANIMAL CARE AND CONTROL
 6 PROFESSIONALS THAT IS APPROVED BY THE APPROPRIATE UNIT OF A COUNTY OR
 7 MUNICIPAL CORPORATION.
- 8 (2) AN OFFICER OF A HUMANE SOCIETY OR AN ANIMAL CONTROL
 9 OFFICER SHALL SATISFACTORILY COMPLETE AT LEAST 6 HOURS OF CONTINUING
 10 EDUCATION APPROVED BY THE APPROPRIATE UNIT OF A COUNTY OR MUNICIPAL
 11 CORPORATION EVERY YEAR.
- SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2020.