

# HOUSE BILL 563

L6

1r1165  
CF SB 338

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By: **Delegate Long**

Introduced and read first time: January 20, 2021

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

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Committee Report: Favorable

House action: Adopted

Read second time: February 23, 2021

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## CHAPTER \_\_\_\_\_

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Local Government – Animal Control Facilities – Adoption Fee Waiver for**  
3 **Veterans**  
4 **(Pets for Vets Act of 2021)**

5 FOR the purpose of requiring an animal control facility operated by a county or  
6 municipality to waive the adoption fee for a dog or cat for a veteran who presents a  
7 certain valid driver’s license or identification card that includes a notation of veteran  
8 status; authorizing an animal control facility to limit the number of adoption fee  
9 waivers granted under this Act in a certain manner; providing for the application of  
10 this Act; and generally relating to animal control facilities operated by a county or  
11 municipality.

12 BY adding to  
13 Article – Local Government  
14 Section 1–1314  
15 Annotated Code of Maryland  
16 (2013 Volume and 2020 Supplement)

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

19 **Article – Local Government**

20 **1–1314.**

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.



1 (A) THIS SECTION APPLIES TO ALL COUNTIES AND MUNICIPALITIES.

2 (B) (1) SUBJECT TO PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION, AN ANIMAL  
3 CONTROL FACILITY OPERATED BY A COUNTY OR MUNICIPALITY SHALL WAIVE THE  
4 ADOPTION FEE FOR A DOG OR CAT ADOPTED BY A VETERAN WHO PRESENTS A VALID  
5 DRIVER'S LICENSE OR IDENTIFICATION CARD ISSUED BY THE MOTOR VEHICLE  
6 ADMINISTRATION THAT INCLUDES A NOTATION OF VETERAN STATUS IN  
7 ACCORDANCE WITH § 12-302 OF THE TRANSPORTATION ARTICLE.

8 (2) AN ANIMAL CONTROL FACILITY MAY LIMIT THE NUMBER OF  
9 ADOPTION FEE WAIVERS GRANTED TO AN INDIVIDUAL UNDER THIS SUBSECTION TO  
10 ONE DOG AND ONE CAT WITHIN A 6-MONTH PERIOD.

11 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
12 October 1, 2021.

Approved:

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Governor.

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Speaker of the House of Delegates.

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President of the Senate.