

MARYLAND STATE BAR ASSOCIATION ANIMAL LAW SECTION

January 24, 2022

Senator Paul G. Pinsky, *Chair*
Senator Cheryl C. Kagan, *Vice-Chair*
Senator Mary Beth Carozza
Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee
Miller Senate Office Building, 2 East Wing
11 Bladen St., Annapolis, MD 21401

RE: Maryland State Bar Association Animal Law Section
Written Testimony in Support of SB 70

Dear Senator Pinsky, Senator Kagan, Senator Carozza, and Committee Members:

The Maryland State Bar Association Animal Law Section (the “Section”) supports SB 70, which would add a requirement to the Emergency Medical System (“EMS”) plan for guidelines that authorize emergency medical services to canines injured in the line of duty with law enforcement agencies.

The establishment of guidelines would maximize the efficiency of existing life-saving resources for the benefit of both humans and canines during emergencies. Maryland must ensure that guidelines are designed and implemented to provide EMS with a course of action during predictable emergencies, such as when a canine requires medical treatment due to injuries sustained in the line of duty.

Canines serve Maryland’s communities and law enforcement agencies in a range of settings. SB 70 would provide guidelines for injured canines serving police departments in municipalities, schools, the Department of Natural Resources, the Department of Transportation, the Office of State Fire Marshall, and others.

Thank you for the time and consideration that you have dedicated to this written testimony. The Maryland State Bar Association Animal Law Section is hopeful that you will vote in favor of SB 70.

Respectfully Submitted,
/s/
Kimberly Fullerton
Immediate Past Chair
Maryland State Bar Association Animal Law Section