

ARTHUR ELLIS, CPA
Legislative District 28
Charles County

ASSISTANT DEPUTY MAJORITY LEADER

Finance Committee

Senate Chair
Joint Committee on the
Management of Public Funds

Chair, Charles, St. Mary's and Calvert
Counties' Senate Delegation



THE SENATE OF MARYLAND
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January 23, 2024

Testimony of Senator Arthur Ellis in Support of Senate Bill 157: Domestic Animals - Penalties for Abandonment and Microchip Requirements for Dogs

Dear Chair Smith, Vice Chair Waldstreicher and Members of the Judicial Proceedings Committee:

This bill increases the penalties by including a term of imprisonment of up to 90 days and a fine not to exceed \$1,000 or both for abandoning a domestic animal in certain locations; establishes requirements for the microchipping of dogs on a transfer of ownership and for the management of information relating to dogs with implanted microchips; authorizes the governing body of a county to establish reasonable penalties for a violation of the Act; and applies the Act prospectively.

I urge your favorable report on Senate Bill 157.

Yours in Service,

Handwritten signature of Arthur Ellis, consisting of two distinct initials, 'AE' and 'EL', written in dark ink.

Arthur Ellis – District 28