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**By: Delegates Owings, O'Donnell, Wood, Slade, Menes, and Frush**

Introduced and read first time: January 10, 1996

Assigned to: Judiciary

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A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Crimes - Animals as Prizes, Inducements, or Incentives - Prohibition**

3 FOR the purpose of repealing an exception to the prohibition against giving away a live  
4 animal as a prize, inducement, or incentive under certain circumstances; making a  
5 technical change; and generally relating to the prohibition of giving away animals.

6 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
7 Article 27 - Crimes and Punishments  
8 Section 60A  
9 Annotated Code of Maryland  
10 (1992 Replacement Volume and 1995 Supplement)

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

13 **Article 27 - Crimes and Punishments**

14 60A.

15 (a) [Without the approval of the Secretary of Agriculture, a] A person may not  
16 give away any live animal[, equine, or bird] as:

17 (1) A prize for, or as an inducement to enter any contest, game, or other  
18 competition; or

19 (2) An inducement to enter a place of amusement; or

20 (3) As an incentive to enter into any business agreement where the offer was  
21 for the purpose of attracting trade.

22 (b) Any person who violates the provisions of this section is guilty of a  
23 misdemeanor and is subject to a fine of not more than \$500.

24 (c) The provisions of this section do not apply to a person or organization who  
25 gives away an animal:

26 (1) As an agricultural project; or

27 (2) For conservation purposes; or

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1                   (3) Which is intended for slaughter.

2                   SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
3 October 1, 1996.