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By: **Delegates Klausmeier, Ports, and Redmer**  
Introduced and read first time: February 22, 1999  
Assigned to: Rules and Executive Nominations

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A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Courts - Damages for Tortious Injuries to Pets**

3 FOR the purpose of removing the cap on damages for tortious injuries to a pet;  
4 providing for damages to be the greater of the market value of the pet or the  
5 reasonable cost of veterinary care; and generally relating to tortious injuries to  
6 pets.

7 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
8 Article - Courts and Judicial Proceedings  
9 Section 11-110  
10 Annotated Code of Maryland  
11 (1998 Replacement Volume)

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

14 **Article - Courts and Judicial Proceedings**

15 11-110.

16 (a) (1) In this section "pet" means a domesticated animal.

17 (2) "Pet" does not include livestock.

18 (b) The measure of damages for tortious injuries to a pet is THE GREATER OF  
19 the market value of the pet before the injury or the reasonable cost of veterinary  
20 care[, but not more than \$2,500 if such charge is greater].

21 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
22 October 1, 1999.