
By: **Senators Mooney and Gladden**

Introduced and read first time: February 2, 2005

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Criminal Law - Intentional Infliction of Harm on Law Enforcement**
3 **Animals - Repeal**

4 FOR the purpose of repealing the crime of intentional infliction of harm on an animal
5 owned or used by a law enforcement unit; and generally relating to cruelty to
6 animals.

7 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
8 Article - Criminal Law
9 Section 10-606
10 Annotated Code of Maryland
11 (2002 Volume and 2004 Supplement)

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

14 **Article - Criminal Law**

15 10-606.

16 (a) A person may not:

17 (1) intentionally mutilate, torture, cruelly beat, or cruelly kill an animal;

18 OR

19 (2) cause, procure, or authorize an act prohibited under item (1) of this
20 subsection[]; or

21 (3) except in the case of self-defense, intentionally inflict bodily harm,
22 permanent disability, or death on an animal owned or used by a law enforcement
23 unit].

24 (b) (1) A person who violates this section is guilty of the felony of aggravated
25 cruelty to animals and on conviction is subject to imprisonment not exceeding 3 years
26 or a fine not exceeding \$5,000 or both.

1 (2) As a condition of sentencing, the court may order a defendant
2 convicted of violating this section to participate in and pay for psychological
3 counseling.

4 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
5 October 1, 2005.