

CHAPTER 42

(House Bill 113)

AN ACT concerning

Somerset County – Regulation of Dogs and Cats – Violations of Ordinances and Regulations

FOR the purpose of authorizing the County Commissioners of Somerset County to impose civil and criminal penalties for violations of certain regulations relating to dogs and cats; authorizing the County Commissioners of Somerset County to provide that violations of certain dog and cat control ordinances may be prosecuted in a certain manner; and generally relating to ordinances for the regulation of dogs and cats.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
Article 24 – Political Subdivisions – Miscellaneous Provisions
Section 11–504(o)
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2005 Replacement Volume and 2007 Supplement)

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

Article 24 – Political Subdivisions – Miscellaneous Provisions

11–504.

(o) (1) In addition to and not in substitution for any powers granted under this subtitle, the county commissioners of Dorchester, Garrett, and Somerset counties may by ordinance provide for a comprehensive system for the regulation of dogs and cats within the county, including licensing and control. These regulations may include provision for the impounding and disposal of unlicensed or dangerous dogs and cats and penalties, including [in Dorchester County and Garrett County] civil or criminal penalties, for violations of any of the provisions of the regulations.

(2) In Dorchester County [and], Garrett County, **AND SOMERSET COUNTY**, the County Commissioners may provide that a violation of a county dog or cat control ordinance shall be prosecuted by the county in the same manner and to the same extent as provided for municipal infractions under Article 23A, § 3(b) of the Code.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2008.

Approved by the Governor, April 8, 2008.