

# SENATE BILL 318

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9lr1811  
CF 9lr1151

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By: **Senators Gladden, Della, Madaleno, and Stone**

Introduced and read first time: January 28, 2009

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Criminal Law – Crimes Relating to Animals – Limitations on Possession of**  
3 **Breeding Dogs**

4 FOR the purpose of prohibiting a person from owning, possessing, controlling, or  
5 otherwise having custody of more than a certain number of breeding dogs at any  
6 time; establishing enclosure size and exercise requirements to be met by a  
7 person owning, possessing, controlling, or otherwise having custody of more  
8 than a certain number of breeding dogs; establishing a penalty for a violation of  
9 this Act; exempting certain facilities from the requirements of this Act; defining  
10 certain terms; and generally relating to limitations on the possession of  
11 breeding dogs.

12 BY adding to

13 Article – Criminal Law  
14 Section 10–624  
15 Annotated Code of Maryland  
16 (2002 Volume and 2008 Supplement)

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

19 **Article – Criminal Law**

20 **10–624.**

21 (A) (1) IN THIS SECTION THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE  
22 MEANINGS INDICATED.

23 (2) “BREEDING DOG” MEANS A DOG WITH INTACT SEXUAL  
24 ORGANS.

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



4 (II) "RETAIL PET STORE" DOES NOT INCLUDE A PERSON OR  
5 ESTABLISHMENT THAT BREEDS OR RAISES ANIMALS TO SELL, EXCHANGE,  
6 BROKER, OR OTHERWISE TRANSFER THE ANIMALS TO THE PUBLIC AS  
7 HOUSEHOLD PETS.

14 (4) A RETAIL PET STORE;

16 (6) A BOARDING FACILITY.

17 (C) A PERSON MAY NOT OWN, POSSESS, CONTROL, OR OTHERWISE HAVE  
18 CHARGE OR CUSTODY OF MORE THAN 50 BREEDING DOGS OVER THE AGE OF 4  
19 MONTHS AT ANY TIME.

20 (D) (1) A PERSON WHO OWNS, POSSESSES, CONTROLS, OR  
21 OTHERWISE HAS CHARGE OR CUSTODY OF MORE THAN 10 BREEDING DOGS  
22 OVER THE AGE OF 4 MONTHS SHALL PROVIDE FOR EACH DOG:

23 (I) AN ENCLOSURE WITH:

5 (2) THE EXERCISE REQUIRED UNDER PARAGRAPH (1)(II) OF THIS  
6 SUBSECTION:

7 (I) SHALL INCLUDE REMOVING THE DOG FROM ITS  
8 PRIMARY ENCLOSURE AND ALLOWING THE DOG TO WALK FOR THE ENTIRE  
9 EXERCISE PERIOD; AND

10 (II) UNLESS PRESCRIBED BY A DOCTOR OF VETERINARY  
11 MEDICINE, MAY NOT INCLUDE USE OF A TREADMILL, CAT MILL, JENNY MILL,  
12 SLAT MILL, OR SIMILAR DEVICE.

13                   (E) A PERSON WHO VIOLATES THIS SECTION IS GUILTY OF A  
14 MISDEMEANOR AND ON CONVICTION IS SUBJECT TO A FINE NOT EXCEEDING  
15 \$1,000.

16 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
17 October 1, 2009.