

SENATE BILL 61

L1

2lr0843

By: **Senator Stone**

Introduced and read first time: January 16, 2012

Assigned to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Counties – Temporary Kennel License**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring a local licensing agency, under certain circumstances, to
4 issue a temporary kennel license to a certain individual who owns or keeps the
5 maximum number of dogs allowed without a kennel license and seeks to keep
6 and care for a dog owned by another individual who is serving on active duty in
7 the armed forces of the United States; and generally relating to temporary
8 kennel licenses.

9 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
10 Article 24 – Political Subdivisions – Miscellaneous Provisions
11 Section 11–501(a)
12 Annotated Code of Maryland
13 (2011 Replacement Volume)

14 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
15 Article 24 – Political Subdivisions – Miscellaneous Provisions
16 Section 11–501(a–1)
17 Annotated Code of Maryland
18 (2011 Replacement Volume)

19 BY adding to
20 Article 24 – Political Subdivisions – Miscellaneous Provisions
21 Section 11–501(a–2)
22 Annotated Code of Maryland
23 (2011 Replacement Volume)

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

26 **Article 24 – Political Subdivisions – Miscellaneous Provisions**

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 11-501.

2 (a) Except in Calvert County, Carroll County, Cecil County, Montgomery
3 County, Howard County, Talbot County, and Washington County, on or before the
4 first day of July of each year, the owner of any dog, six months old or over, shall apply
5 either orally or in writing, to the county treasurer or to the tax collecting officer in said
6 county for a license for each such dog owned or kept by him, and such application shall
7 be accompanied by a fee of one dollar (\$1.00) for each male dog or each spayed female
8 dog, and a fee of two dollars (\$2.00) for each unspayed female dog, and provided that
9 kennel license shall be issued for ten dollars (\$10.00) to persons owning or keeping not
10 in excess of twenty-five dogs and that a kennel license fee of twenty dollars (\$20.00)
11 shall be issued to persons keeping more than twenty-five dogs. Except as provided in
12 [subsection] **SUBSECTIONS (a-1) AND (A-2)** of this section, the said license or fee
13 shall be the only license or tax required for the ownership or keeping of said dog or
14 dogs. Such license shall be issued on a form prepared and supplied by the county
15 commissioners. Such license shall be dated and numbered, and shall contain a
16 description of the dog licensed. Except in Calvert County, Carroll County, Cecil
17 County, Montgomery County, Howard County, Talbot County, and Washington
18 County, all licenses shall be void upon the first day of July of the following year. The
19 county commissioners shall also furnish, and the county treasurer, or tax collecting
20 officer issuing the license, shall issue, with each license, a metal tag. Such tag shall be
21 affixed to a substantial collar. The collar shall be furnished by the owner, and with the
22 tag attached shall at all times be kept on the dog for which the license is issued, except
23 when confined in the kennel or when hunting in charge of an attendant.

24 (a-1) (1) This subsection applies in all counties.

25 (2) Notwithstanding any other provisions of this section, a person
26 shall obtain a kennel license from the local licensing agency if the person:

27 (i) Owns or has custody of 15 or more unspayed female dogs
28 over the age of 6 months kept for the purpose of breeding the dogs and selling their
29 offspring; and

30 (ii) Sells dogs from six or more litters in a year.

31 (3) Each county shall collect and maintain a record of the following
32 information for each kennel license issued in the county:

33 (i) Name of the licensee;

34 (ii) Address of the licensee;

35 (iii) Number of dogs maintained by the licensee; and

1 (iv) Number of puppies sold by the licensee in the preceding
2 year.

3 (4) On or before January 15 of each year, each county shall report to
4 the Department of Labor, Licensing, and Regulation the information collected under
5 paragraph (3) of this subsection for the preceding year.

6 (5) A county may establish additional kennel license fees to cover the
7 cost of collecting, maintaining, and submitting the records and reports required by
8 paragraphs (3) and (4) of this subsection.

9 (6) This section may not be construed to prohibit a county from
10 enacting more stringent kennel licensing ordinances.

11 **(A-2) (1) THIS SUBSECTION APPLIES IN ALL COUNTIES.**

12 **(2) NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER PROVISION OF LAW, A LOCAL**
13 **LICENSING AGENCY SHALL ISSUE A TEMPORARY KENNEL LICENSE TO AN**
14 **APPLICANT SEEKING TO KEEP AND CARE FOR A DOG OWNED BY ANOTHER**
15 **INDIVIDUAL WHO IS SERVING ON ACTIVE DUTY IN THE ARMED FORCES OF THE**
16 **UNITED STATES FOR THE TIME PERIOD DURING WHICH THAT INDIVIDUAL IS**
17 **SERVING ON ACTIVE DUTY, IF THE APPLICANT:**

18 **(I) ALREADY OWNS OR KEEPS THE MAXIMUM NUMBER OF**
19 **DOGS ALLOWED WITHOUT A KENNEL LICENSE;**

20 **(II) SUBMITS EVIDENCE THAT THE OWNER OF THE DOG IS**
21 **SERVING ON ACTIVE DUTY;**

22 **(III) SUBMITS EVIDENCE OF A VALID LICENSE AND CURRENT**
23 **RABIES VACCINATION CERTIFICATE FOR THE DOG OWNED BY THE INDIVIDUAL**
24 **SERVING ON ACTIVE DUTY;**

25 **(IV) SUBMITS EVIDENCE OF A VALID LICENSE AND**
26 **CURRENT RABIES VACCINATION CERTIFICATE FOR EACH DOG ALREADY OWNED**
27 **OR KEPT BY THE APPLICANT; AND**

28 **(V) HAS PAID ALL REQUIRED FEES.**

29 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
30 October 1, 2012.