

HOUSE BILL 665

E1

4lr1784
CF SB 659

By: **Delegates Kramer, Barkley, Fraser-Hidalgo, A. Miller, S. Robinson,
Simmons, Stocksdale, and Valderrama**

Introduced and read first time: January 31, 2014

Assigned to: Judiciary

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

House action: Adopted

Read second time: March 10, 2014

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Crimes Relating to Animals – Surgery on Dogs – Penalties**

3 FOR the purpose of prohibiting a person, other than a licensed veterinarian using
4 anesthesia when appropriate, from performing certain procedures on a dog;
5 establishing penalties for a violation of this Act; and generally relating to crimes
6 relating to animals.

7 BY adding to

8 Article – Criminal Law

9 Section 10–624

10 Annotated Code of Maryland

11 (2012 Replacement Volume and 2013 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 **10–624.**

16 **(A) EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION, A**
17 **PERSON MAY NOT:**

18 **(1) CROP OR CUT OFF THE EAR OF A DOG;**

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.



1 **(2) DOCK OR CUT OFF THE TAIL OF A DOG;**

2 **(3) CUT OFF THE DEWCLAW OF A DOG; OR**

3 **(4) SURGICALLY BIRTH A DOG.**

4 **(B) A PROCEDURE DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS SECTION**
5 **MAY BE PERFORMED BY A LICENSED VETERINARIAN USING ANESTHESIA WHEN**
6 **APPROPRIATE ON THE ANIMAL.**

7 **(C) A PERSON WHO VIOLATES THIS SECTION IS GUILTY OF A**
8 **MISDEMEANOR AND ON CONVICTION IS SUBJECT TO:**

9 **(1) FOR A FIRST OFFENSE, IMPRISONMENT NOT EXCEEDING 90**
10 **DAYS OR A FINE NOT EXCEEDING \$1,000 OR BOTH; AND**

11 **(2) FOR A SECOND OR SUBSEQUENT OFFENSE, IMPRISONMENT**
12 **NOT EXCEEDING 180 DAYS OR A FINE NOT EXCEEDING \$5,000 OR BOTH.**

13 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
14 October 1, 2014.

Approved:

Governor.

Speaker of the House of Delegates.

President of the Senate.