

Chapter 309

**(House Bill 563)**

AN ACT concerning

**Local Government – Animal Control Facilities – Adoption Fee Waiver for  
Veterans  
(Pets for Vets Act of 2021)**

FOR the purpose of requiring an animal control facility operated by a county or municipality to waive the adoption fee for a dog or cat for a veteran who presents a certain valid driver’s license or identification card that includes a notation of veteran status; authorizing an animal control facility to limit the number of adoption fee waivers granted under this Act in a certain manner; providing for the application of this Act; and generally relating to animal control facilities operated by a county or municipality.

BY adding to  
Article – Local Government  
Section 1–1314  
Annotated Code of Maryland  
(2013 Volume and 2020 Supplement)

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

**Article – Local Government**

**1–1314.**

**(A) THIS SECTION APPLIES TO ALL COUNTIES AND MUNICIPALITIES.**

**(B) (1) SUBJECT TO PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION, AN ANIMAL CONTROL FACILITY OPERATED BY A COUNTY OR MUNICIPALITY SHALL WAIVE THE ADOPTION FEE FOR A DOG OR CAT ADOPTED BY A VETERAN WHO PRESENTS A VALID DRIVER’S LICENSE OR IDENTIFICATION CARD ISSUED BY THE MOTOR VEHICLE ADMINISTRATION THAT INCLUDES A NOTATION OF VETERAN STATUS IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 12–302 OF THE TRANSPORTATION ARTICLE.**

**(2) AN ANIMAL CONTROL FACILITY MAY LIMIT THE NUMBER OF ADOPTION FEE WAIVERS GRANTED TO AN INDIVIDUAL UNDER THIS SUBSECTION TO ONE DOG AND ONE CAT WITHIN A 6–MONTH PERIOD.**

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2021.

**Approved by the Governor, May 18, 2021.**