

Maryland Senate Finance Committee Sen. Delores G. Kelly, Chair Sen. Brian J. Feldman, Vice-Chair Miller Senate Office Building, 3 East Wing 11 Bladen St., Annapolis, MD 21401 - 1991

Dear Senators,

We work with veterinary clinics in Maryland, including Banfield Pet Hospitals, which are located inside of PetSmart retail stores. We would like to make one suggestion to the exemptions included in <u>SB223</u>, the Plastic Bag Reduction Act.

The bill includes an exemption for "plastic bags provided by a pharmacist that contains prescription drugs." There are other practitioners that operate inside of retail locations who provide prescription drugs, including veterinarians. We would recommend simplifying that exemption to include any bag that contains prescription drugs, regardless of who provides it. Our suggested language follows.

Article – Business Regulation 25 19–106

(A) (III) "plastic carryout bag" does not include: 2. A plastic bag provided by a pharmacist that contains prescription drugs;

We also represent PetSmart, and we support the other exemptions as they will cover our products of concern including insects, fish, aquatic plants, and dog waste bags.

Please don't hesitate to contact us if there are any questions. We appreciate the committee's time and effort and stay safe.

Respectfully,

Scott Young

Director, Legislative and Regulatory Affairs

(202) 744-5190

scott@animalpolicygroup.com