



**Maryland's Association of Animal Care and Control
Agencies and Humane Societies**

**PO Box 1143
Easton, Maryland 21601**

**SB 206 Department of Agriculture- Spay/Neuter Fund- Extension
Maryland Senate Education, Health and Environmental Affairs Committee**

January 12, 2022

Dear Honorable Chairman Pinsky, Vice Chair Kagan and members of the committee:

Professional Animal Workers of Maryland, the state organization comprised of animal control agencies and humane societies unanimously supports and encourages a favorable and speedy report on SB 206.

We are proud and thankful for the work of the Education, Health and Environmental Affairs committee to create the Spay/Neuter Fund, which provides a national model for how to raise revenue for this critical, lifesaving work. We are grateful to the Sponsor and the legislature for proactively looking to renew the Fund and to ensure that it continues to operate. Since the Fund was established in 2014, euthanasia of companion animals across the state have decreased 55% and overall animal intake has dropped 17%. It is estimated that spaying and neutering just one male and one female cat can prevent more than 2,000 unwanted births over four years. The Spay/Neuter Fund is one of the most effective and cost-effective tools existing today for supporting pet owners, easing the burden on our shelters, and improving the lives of companion animals.

This is a life-saving and valuable bill which will continue to make a difference in the lives of animals and citizens of Maryland. We strongly support reauthorizing the program and a favorable report on SB206.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Patty Crankshaw-Quimby

Executive Director/Chief Animal Control Officer: Talbot Humane/ Talbot County Animal Control

President: Professional Animal Workers of Maryland