MARYLAND VOTES FOR ANIMALS



PO Box 10411 BALTIMORE, MD 21209

March 29, 2023

To: Environment and Transportation Committee

From: Lisa Radov, President and Chairman, Maryland Votes for Animals, Inc.

Re: Provision of Veterinary Services – Routine Medical Care and Rabies Vaccines – SB 390 – Favorable

Chair Barve, Vice Chair Stein, members of the Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee, thank you for the opportunity to testify before you today. My name is Lisa Radov. I am the President and Chair of Maryland Votes for Animals. I am here today to ask the Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee to vote favorably for Provision of Veterinary Services – Routine Medical Care and Rabies Vaccines – SB 390.

We support this bill as it would help ease the veterinary shortage and provide greater access to rabies vaccines. We would support amending the language as follows: §2–305.

- (a) In this section, "animal control facility" means a humane society, as defined in § 10–601 of the Criminal Law Article, or a county or municipal designated animal shelter.
- (b) The Board, on terms and conditions satisfactory to the Board, may issue a license to an animal control facility to allow the animal control facility to administer drugs needed to sedate, euthanize, or sedate and euthanize animals AND ADMINISTER RABIES VACCINATIONS IN ACCORDANCE WITH HEALTH ARTICLE 18-313.
 - (c) (1) (i) The owner of an animal control facility shall apply for the license.
- (ii) The Board shall issue a license in the name of the owner of an animal control facility.
- (2) The application shall designate one individual at the facility responsible for the drugs AND RABIES VACCINATIONS.
 - (3) The annual license fee is \$100.
 - (d) In accordance with procedures set out in § 2–311 of this subtitle, the Board may:
 - (1) Reject an application for a license; or
 - (2) Suspend or revoke a license for failure to comply with the Board's regulations.
- (e) An animal control facility licensed under this section shall comply with the Board's requirements relating to employee training.
- (f) A member of the Board, or the Board's designated inspector, may enter an animal control facility licensed under this section at any reasonable hour to enforce the Board's regulations.
- (g) In consultation with the Maryland Department of Health, the Board shall adopt regulations necessary to carry out this section.

I would like to thank Senator Lewis Young for her sponsorship of SB 390 and ask the committee for a favorable report.