

Position of the Maryland Veterinary Medical Association (MDVMA) Favorable

RE: HB85 and SB641 Spay/Neuter Fund

As the state veterinary medical association, we are in support of House Bill 85/Senate Bill 641 on the modifications of the Spay and Neuter grant program. Originally put into place in 2014, according to the Maryland Department of Agriculture (MDA) this grant program has reduced shelter intake by 27% and shelter euthanasia by 62%. MDA indicates that this program has funded over 105,000 dogs and cats being spayed or neutered.

Based off this data, the grant has made a huge positive impact on the lives of Maryland's homeless, feral, and low-income pets.

MDVMA welcomes the modifications to this grant program that has already made a positive impact on Maryland's pet population. With this, we urge a favorable vote on House Bill 85/Senate Bill 641.

Thank you, Sincerely,

Ashley I Nichols, DVM President

Matthew Weeman, DVM, MS Legislative Committee Chair

MARYLAND VETERINARY MEDICAL ASSOCIATION