



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

**PO Box 1143
Easton, Maryland 21601**

**HB 693 Renters' Rights and Stabilization Act of 2024
Maryland House of Delegates**

February 16, 2024

Dear Honorable Chairman Korman, Vice Chair Boyce and members of the committee:

Professional Animal Workers of Maryland (PAWS) the state organization comprised of animal control agencies and humane societies unanimously supports and encourages a favorable report on HB 693

It may seem odd for an organization comprised of animal control agencies and animal shelters to support a housing bill. The truth is, we see what lack of affordable housing does to families across Maryland daily. Our agencies are often the ones left to help these families when housing is unavailable- we end up caring for and rehoming their beloved pets. Our organization supports any effort to assist Marylanders find affordable and safe housing, as it assists our efforts in keeping families- pets included together. If we go one step further, *affordable and pet friendly housing* will also directly reduce the number of animals entering our facilities.

Professional Animal Workers of Maryland believes the passing of HB 693 is a valuable tool in serving residents and pets in Maryland.

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

Sincerely,

Patty Crankshaw-Quimby, CAWA

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

President: Professional Animal Workers of Maryland