

SB0581_MDVMA_FAV.pdf

Uploaded by: Danielle Bauer Farace

Position: FAV



Maryland Veterinary Medical Association (MDVMA)

Established in 1886, MDVMA is a volunteer, non-profit organization comprised primarily of licensed Maryland Veterinarians.

SB0581 - Civil Actions - Tortious Injury to or Death of Pet - Compensatory Damages

Committee: Judicial Proceedings

February 7, 2025

MDVMA Position: SUPPORT

On behalf of the Maryland Veterinary Medical Association (MVMA), I am writing to express our strong support for the proposed Civil Actions - Tortious Injury to or Death of Pet - Compensatory Damages Bill currently under consideration in the Maryland legislature. As an organization that represents veterinarians throughout the state, we believe that this bill is a necessary step toward ensuring that pet owners are fairly compensated in the unfortunate event of injury or death of a pet caused by another party's negligence.

We recognize and appreciate the ongoing discussions around tort reform and understand the importance of balancing fair compensation with responsible legislation. This bill strikes an appropriate balance by providing reasonable damages for the injury or loss of a beloved pet, while also addressing the realities of increasing veterinary care costs in our state. With veterinary fees rising, it is only fitting that the potential payment for such claims be adjusted to reflect these increases. A maximum payment of \$25,000 is a reasonable amount that will provide appropriate compensation while ensuring that the potential for excessive litigation is kept in check.

Veterinarians play a crucial role in the health and well-being of pets, and we believe that it is vital for the law to recognize the emotional and financial impact that a pet's injury or death can have on its owners. In the same vein, we believe that owners should have a clear path to seek compensation when negligence or wrongful acts result in harm to their pets. This bill would provide clarity and justice to pet owners, while ensuring the preservation of responsible tort practices.

We urge you to support the passage of this bill, which will provide fair recourse for Maryland pet owners and ensure that the legislation remains relevant to the current realities of veterinary care and the associated costs.

Thank you for your time and consideration. If you have any questions, or if there is any further information the MVMA can provide, please do not hesitate to reach out.

Sincerely, Matthew Weeman, DVM, MS
Legislative Committee Chair
Maryland Veterinary Medical Association

MARYLAND VETERINARY MEDICAL ASSOCIATION

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SB 581 FAV.pdf

Uploaded by: George Tolley

Position: FAV

DUGAN
BABIJ
TOLLEY
& KOHLER LLC



Finding Answers.
Demanding Justice.

Chairman William C. Smith, Jr.
Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee
2 East Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

February 7, 2025

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

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**SB 581 Civil Actions – Tortious Injury to or Death of Pet
– Compensatory Damages (cross-filed with HB 438)**

Dear Chairman Smith and Members of the Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee:

For at least five-and-a-half centuries, the common law has held that a person who negligently damages or destroys the property of another is responsible for compensating the owner of that property for the loss. *The Case of the Thorns*, YB 6 Ed 4 (1466).

Today, Maryland law allows the recovery of damages when unreasonably unsafe conduct damages or destroys the property of another person. In every such case – ***except for injury or death of a “pet”*** – damages are measured by the fair market value of the loss.

Out of all real or personal property in Maryland – from mansions to boats and planes to livestock – Maryland law treats ***pets and pet owners*** uniquely differently, by imposing an artificial and arbitrary cap on the recoverable damages.

The cap on pet damages is absurd, but it is the law. When the Legislature imposes an arbitrary cap on recoverable damages, the cap necessarily must increase over time (unless it is repealed, which would be preferable). SB 581 increases the “pet cap” for the first time in eight years, from \$10,000 (which is too low) to \$25,000 (which may still be too low).

Historically, the only group that opposes increasing this cap are insurers. The insurance industry loves artificial and arbitrary caps on damages, because caps allow insurers to keep money as profit rather than to pay the money out as compensation. Public policy in Maryland should not favor insurance company profits over compensating pet owners.

I respectfully request a FAVORABLE report on SB 581.

Respectfully Submitted,

George S. Tolley III

SB581 Larry Sanders

Uploaded by: Larry Sanders

Position: FAV

SB581 Good afternoon,

On June 20th of 2018 my wife and I came home from our Rotary Club meeting at around 8pm. Three of our four dogs came running as usual to greet us, however Buddy was very slow to greet us. I checked him over and found a bloody hole on his abdomen.

We rushed him to the emergency vet in Annapolis and they said it was a superficial wound and to treat it topically. The next day things changed and back to the emergency vet in Annapolis. They did an x-ray and found a metallic round object in this spleen.

We took Buddy to our Vet in Pasadena and Dr. Vera at Happy Tails did the operation as she was way less expensive then the Emergency Vets. The Emergency Vets wanted \$10,000! Our vet charged me Two thousand dollars.

Buddy crossed the rainbow bridge on June 30th of 2018. We believe that one of our previous neighbors shot Buddy with the same BB rifle that they would shoot the Geese with. We called Anne Arundel Police and spoke with Det. Milford.

He informed me that he would do his best, but since our beloved pet's are considered Property in Maryland. He did go to the house and the rifle was on the kitchen counter.

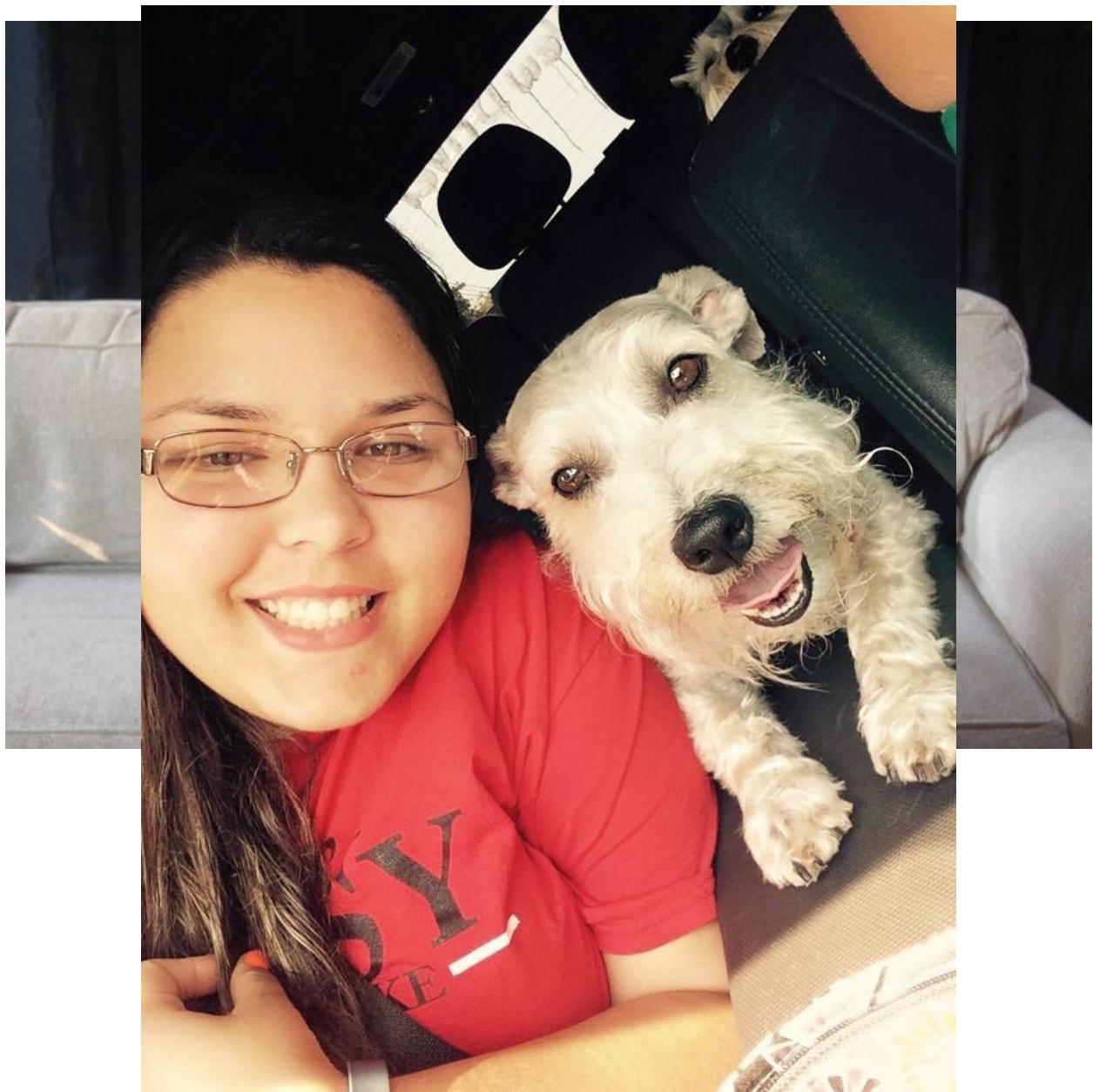
He came over to tell me what he saw but they were no cooperative. The husband tried to tell him that my son shot his own dog! He said he would take a polygraph as long as my son would take one. He said his wife would not take one. On the day that was set up he never showed up. My son passed it with flying colors.

In late August I had professionally installed cameras all around our house. When they were finished my wife posted on "Justice for Buddy" on Facebook that we can see their pimples. Labor Day weekend they put their house up for sale and moved to the other side of the Baltimore beltway.

We sued them in civil court, by the time things progressed through the courts we were in the middle of Covid-19. I promised Buddy as he was dying in my arms that I would get Justice for him and to help others in similar circumstances. In 2019 we started with bills in the House and the

Senate. We did get it through the House but not the Senate.

I spent over \$14,000 to save our beloved Buddy a 20lb. Schnoodle. Plus over \$22,000 in attorneys fees. We need to get this passed as this happens more than we all realize. Our police need more to be able to get these types of Horrible people arrested and brought to Justice. Our pets are not



Property. They are Family. I have attached pictures of our beloved Buddy with his siblings.



Please, please let's get this done. SB581

SB581 sponsor testimony final.pdf

Uploaded by: Linda Hanifin Bonner

Position: FAV

SHANEKA HENSON
Legislative District 30
Anne Arundel County

Judicial Proceedings Committee

Joint Committee on Children,
Youth, and Families



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THE SENATE OF MARYLAND
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

SPONSOR TESTIMONY

Senate Bill 0581
Civil Actions - Tortious Injury to or Death of a Pet
Compensatory Damages

Chairman Smith and Committee Members

Thank you for the opportunity to introduce and provide important details regarding SB0581 - Civil Actions - Tortious Injury to or Death of a Pet - Compensatory Damages.

For the record, I am Senator Shaneka Helson from the 30th Legislative District of Anne Arundel County, MD.

This bill has been before the committee in different postures in the past years. The intent of SB 581 is to address financial issues affecting pet owners who encounter unusual medical situations. For the most part, pet owners do not carry insurance on their companions – with most of the costs being paid out of pocket. However, in today’s medical world with veterinary medicine, treatment is often similar to that experienced by adults. And this treatment can take a catastrophic turn, if unusual situations occur.

Under current law, a person who tortiously causes an injury to or the death of a pet while acting individually or through an animal under the person’s ownership, direction, or control is liable to the owner of the pet for up to \$10,000 in compensatory damages. The current statute of damages cap went into effect on October 1, 2017.

SB 581 increases the maximum amount of compensatory damages that may be awarded to the owner of a pet, from a person or professional who tortiously causes an injury to or the death of a pet, under specified circumstances from \$10,000 to \$25,000.

In this bill, the definition of “Pet” only means a domesticated animal owned or under the care of a private individual. It does not include livestock.

“Compensatory damages” implied mean:

(1) the reasonable and necessary cost of veterinary care for a pet that was

injured and

(2) in a case involving the death of a pet, the fair market value of the pet before death and the reasonable and necessary cost of veterinary care.

I want to introduce two representatives to speak to this bill.

After you hear the testimony from those here today, I request that you give a favorable report to SB 581.

MAJ - Written Testimony HB 438- SB 581 Buddy's Law

Uploaded by: Ronald Jarashow

Position: FAV



2025 WRITTEN TESTIMONY SB581/HB438

Civil Actions – Tortious Injury to or Death of Pet – Compensatory Damages SB581/HB438 – FAVORABLE

The law regards a pet as *chattel* – a form of property. *Anne Arundel Cnty. v. Reeves*, 474 Md. 46, 62 (2021) (discussing CJ § 11-110). When a tortfeasor negligently damages another person’s property, the law considers that a tort. Under Maryland law, “property damage” can include interference in an owner’s use and enjoyment of their property, **and** the market cost for replacement of the property.

When any kind of property in Maryland **other than a pet** is tortiously damaged or destroyed, the wronged property owner can sue to recover the actual costs associated with repair or replacement of the property, *plus* damages for loss of use and enjoyment, without any statutory cap or limit. See MPJI-Cv 10:22 PROPERTY DAMAGES. In every case involving property damage, other than injury or death of a pet, “fair market value of the property is for the jury to determine” (*id.*), and the jury’s determination is not subject to a statutory “cap” on that amount.

In contrast, when a pet is tortiously injured or killed, CJ § 11-110 limits the amount an owner is entitled to recover to \$10,000, regardless of the “reasonable and necessary cost of veterinary care” or the jury’s determination of the “value of the pet before death.”

Respectfully, it makes no sense for the law to limit the compensatory damages recoverable for injury to, or death of, a pet, when the law does not limit the compensatory damages recoverable for tortious damage to, or destruction of, any other kind of property.

The Maryland Association for Justice respectfully urges that the one-size-fits-all cap in CJ § 11-110 is arbitrary and should be repealed. In 2018, a Chesapeake Bay retriever named “Buddy” Sanders was negligently shot with a BB gun. See *Larry Sanders Written Testimony submitted on HB 992* (February 26, 2020). Buddy’s family spent more than \$15,000 on veterinary bills for emergency surgery. Nevertheless, Buddy died as a result of his injuries. *Id.* Despite the economic costs associated with Buddy’s injuries, his family’s recovery was limited by the cap. Repealing the cap will ensure that pet owners are able to recover “actual costs” and “fair market value” associated with damage to, or destruction of their property, just as owners of any other type of property.

If the cap in CJ § 11-110 is not repealed, then it must be increased to \$25,000. It is true that a cap of \$25,000 is arbitrary, but so is every statutory cap on recoverable damages. In order to keep pace with inflation and other economic realities, the cap must be periodically increased to adequately compensate property owners.

The Maryland Association for Justice urges a FAVORABLE Report on SB581/HB438

About Maryland Association for Justice

The Maryland Association for Justice (MAJ) represents over 1,250 trial attorneys throughout the state of Maryland. MAJ advocates for the preservation of the civil justice system, the protection of the rights of consumers and the education and professional development of its members.

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Senate Bill 581_FAV.pdf

Uploaded by: Sandy Popp

Position: FAV

Sandy Popp
District 32 Resident

Maryland General Assembly
Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee
C/O The Honorable Luke Clippinger
2E Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

February 11, 2025

Bill Number: Senate Bill 581
Title: Civil Actions - Tortious Injury to or Death of Pet - Compensatory Damages
Position: Favorable

Dear Chair Smith and Members of the Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee:

I am writing in my personal capacity to support Senate Bill 581 which will increase the Maryland cap on compensatory damages from \$10,000 to \$25,000 for tortious injury to, or death, of a pet. To be clear, this bill does not expand damages to include non-economic damages. Additionally, it does not apply to my specific situation (which I outline below).

Background

This past summer, I became keenly aware of how unreasonably low the current \$10,000.00 cap for compensatory damages is, particularly in cases of veterinary malpractice. My dog Andy was severely injured by an emergency veterinary clinic. As a result of the injury, Andy required subsequent life-saving treatment at a second facility. While I tried to find an attorney that practiced law in this area, I was told by one attorney, "the damages you can get are very limited and the cost of pursuing the case will generally outweigh the recovery".

For that reason, my husband sent a demand letter to the emergency veterinary clinic that caused the injury, alleging negligence, and seeking compensatory damages in the excess of \$23,000.00 to cover the cost of Andy's veterinary bills. The letter was submitted to the first emergency veterinary clinic's malpractice insurance company. Shortly thereafter, the malpractice insurance company offered us the Maryland cap (minus taxes and with a release). They refused to negotiate above Maryland's cap, which meant that the first veterinary clinic would still receive payment from us for causing the injury.¹

¹ I refused to sign the offer because it would not have made me close to whole. I also had concerns about the release language which I feel would have prevented me from supporting this legislation and filing a complaint with the Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners. I decided to instead dispute the charges from the emergency veterinary clinic that caused the injuries with my credit card company under the Fair Credit Billing Act (disputed under quality of services). The credit card company did find in my favor and removed the charges from the emergency veterinary clinic. I am aware the clinic can sue me for those charges within three years. I was still left with over \$10,000.00 in economic damages for Andy's subsequent lifesaving treatment.

My research shows that Maryland's cap on damages to pets has been reviewed primarily by courts in situations that arise where an individual sues a tortfeasor for injuring or killing their pet, and as a result incurs damages from a veterinary clinic for treatment. I could find no case that discussed the cap on damages as it pertains to veterinary malpractice. However, it seems Maryland's Courts and Judicial Proceedings §11-110, which this legislation seeks to change, is the prevailing authority.

I strongly believe Maryland's cap on compensatory damages to be an outlier with neighboring jurisdictions (see below), and that an increase in compensatory damages is necessary to reflect the actual costs of reasonable and necessary veterinary costs. Please note, I have attached a copy of the charges to my written testimony, which show actual costs from two veterinary clinics located in the Baltimore/Annapolis area.

Andy's Story

Background

Andy is a five-year old black labrador retriever. I procured Andy when he was one-year old from Kaiser K-9 a working dog breeder located on the Eastern Shore for \$3,000.00. Andy is both a family dog and my K-9 partner. I am an operational member with a local non-profit K-9 search and rescue team and together Andy and I are in the process of becoming an operational live find team with the non-profit. Andy has obtained his Canine Good Citizen certification as well as the National Association of Search and Rescue SARTECH III certification.

Facts

- August 22, 2024: Andy broke out of his locked crate and into a trashcan while my family and I were not home.
- August 24, 2024
 - Andy began to show signs of discomfort and an x-ray that was taken by our veterinarian showed Andy had a foreign object inside his abdomen.
 - Our veterinarian told us to find a clinic that could scope the object out of Andy's stomach.

Emergency Clinic A ("clinic A")

- August 24, 2024
 - The scope procedure was unsuccessful, and a veterinarian at clinic A determined Andy needed emergency surgery.
 - Andy underwent an Abdominal Laparotomy, Enterotomy, and Gastrotomy.
 - Andy was never given antibiotics before, during or after the procedure.^{2 3} In fact, an anesthetic monitoring sheet that the veterinarian was supposed to fill out

² Dr. E. Monnet writes that "Gastrointestinal surgery without peritonitis is considered as a clean-contaminated surgery. Therefore, antibiotics are required during the procedures...Before surgery, the patient is placed on prophylactic intravenous antibiotic." E. Monnet, How to Perform a Safe Gastrointestinal Surgery, World Small Animal Veterinary Association World Congress Proceedings, 2015

³ Clinic A exhibited a pattern of failing to prescribe antibiotics. A review of clinic A's on-line reviews, show that this was not the first time clinic A failed to prescribe antibiotics following a stomach surgery that led to an

included a section regarding which antibiotics were provided, and the section was left blank.

- A veterinarian technician assisting with Andy's surgery walked around in the non-sterile portion of the facility where other sick animals were present after she had already donned the required surgery boots and cap. She did not change her boots nor her cap before entering the operating room.
- Another veterinarian technician opened the door many times to communicate with the surgeon about unrelated issues and without proper sterile safety equipment on. Any bacteria in the main room where other animals were being treated (including a sick cat) are likely to have traveled into the room where Andy's stomach and small intestine were open during the surgery.
- August 25, 2024
 - Andy developed bloody diarrhea that was leaking from his anus and a fever.
 - According to a veterinarian technician, clinic A's standard of care is to wrap a dog's tail when they develop diarrhea to help keep the animal clean and dry. Andy's tail was never wrapped.
 - Andy was still not given an antibiotic, despite a fever being sign of a potential infection.⁴
- August 26, 2024
 - Andy was discharged around 9:00 am with a bandage covering the incision site and I was instructed not to remove it for 36-48 hours.
 - Andy's records indicate the incision site was mildly red and bruised. This was never communicated to me. Additionally, his temperature was not taken prior to discharge.
 - My husband called clinic A later in the day to report Andy's lethargy and constant shivering. He was instructed to wait 24 hours and to call back if symptoms continued at that time.
- August 27, 2024
 - Andy was still lethargic, continued to have diarrhea and his bandage began leaking fluid. I called clinic A and was told I could bring him in.
 - Upon arrival at 6:30 pm, Andy was immediately diagnosed with an infection at the incision site, and I was told he had a high fever.
 - We waited for several hours before he was admitted, diagnostic testing completed and given an antibiotic.
 - A veterinarian completed an ultrasound on Andy on the floor of the facility. Before the ultrasound was complete, she left Andy on his back on the floor to tend to another patient. She found free fluid in his abdomen and stated she wanted to "salvage" his first surgery. I asked if they should insert a drain, she said it was not warranted.
- August 28, 2024

infection and had to be treated by another veterinarian. Clinic A verified the customer, acknowledged their mistake and stated they are "dedicated to.... improving their services moving forward."

⁴ <https://parliamentanimalhospital.ca/how-do-i-recognize-signs-of-infection-after-pet-surgery/>

- I arrived at clinic A in the morning and spent the day with Andy in one of their rooms. He continued to be extremely lethargic and to leak fluid from the incision. His fever was still present, and he became incontinent.
- I continued to express concern about the drainage from his abdomen, but clinic A decided that I could handle the infection at home with an antibiotic. While clinic A documented my concern in Andy's records, they showed me how to clean his incision and discharged us.
 - Andy's records indicate that the discharge had increased from "mild" upon admittance to "moderate" upon discharge.
- Within minutes of arriving home, I cleaned Andy's infection as instructed. At this time, I noticed that there were holes in Andy's skin near his incision. I immediately called clinic A and shared a photo with them electronically. Clinic A informed me his incision looked "fine". I later found they were aware of the holes before they discharged him as they documented it with their own photo that was included in his records. I was never informed of this.
- I was not convinced that Andy was on a path to healing, so I sought a second and third opinion from two different veterinary technicians. They were both alarmed at the photo and informed me his skin was necrotizing (i.e. the holes). One of them instructed me to take Andy to a different emergency veterinary clinic and that he needed revision surgery.

Emergency Clinic B ("clinic B")

- August 28, 2024
 - Andy was admitted to clinic B. Upon admittance, Andy's incision was noted as being open, draining, and necrotic. The veterinarian informed me Andy's skin is "dead" and will not grow back. Her plan was to transfer him to surgical specialists the next morning for emergency surgery.
 - After Andy was admitted to clinic B, another veterinarian called me from clinic A and told me she would prescribe an additional antibiotic but that the holes in his skin were a good thing because they would get more of the infection out. She did not recommend revision surgery.

Surgical Specialists

- August 29, 2024
 - Andy was transferred from clinic B to surgical specialists. The surgeon agreed with clinic B's assessment and performed revision surgery.
 - After the surgery, the surgeon informed me the need for surgery was dire because the infection had contaminated Andy's stomach. Andy's falciform was so infected that it needed to be removed, his sutures were crumbling and there was a significant amount of necrotic tissue around the site of the original surgical incision. Andy needed to have two separate drains installed. One subcutaneously and one in his abdomen. Andy was required to stay in the surgical specialists ICU for several days to monitor the drain in his abdomen. The surgeon stated that "another 24 hours and [Andy] would have been on death's doorstep."

- September 2, 2024
 - Andy was discharged for surgical specialists and on activity restrictions for a total of three weeks. Thankfully he progressed daily and has been able to return to search and rescue.

Compensatory Damages for Pets in Nearby States

State	Case Law	Statute
Virginia	<p>“The general rule for determining the amount of damages for injury to personal property is to subtract the fair market value of the property immediately after the loss from the fair market value thereof immediately before the injury, the remainder, plus necessary reasonable expenses incurred, being the damages.”⁵</p> <p>In an action to recover for damages negligently inflicted upon a dog, the court found the owner may recover for all veterinary expenses that owner can prove were or will be reasonably incurred because of defendant’s negligence. ⁶ Whether veterinary care and treatment is reasonable and necessary is a question of fact to be decided by the fact finder. ⁷</p>	<p>All dogs and cats shall be deemed personal property...Owners may maintain any action for the killing of any such animals, or injury thereto....as in the case of other personal property. The owner...shall be entitled to recover the value thereof or the damage done thereto in an appropriate action at law from such person. ⁸</p>
Pennsylvania	<p><i>Veterinary Malpractice:</i> A court held that Pennsylvania recognizes dogs as personal property and that an appropriate cause of action for a plaintiff to recover damages is to plead and prove that the veterinarian was negligent. ⁹</p> <p>Pennsylvania’s general negligence laws for property damage apply to cases of pet damages and there is no cap. Pets are treated just like any other property or chattel. ¹⁰</p>	<p>Dogs are considered personal property and are subject of thefts. ¹¹</p>

⁵ Blue Pearl Veterinary Partners, LLC v. Anderson, Record No. 1180-22-1 (Jul. 11, 2023) (citing White Consol. Indus., Inc. v. Swiney, 237 Va. 23, 30 (1989) (citing Averett v. Shircliff, 218 Va. 202, 206-07 (1977))).

⁶ Blue Pearl Veterinary Partners, LLC v. Anderson, Record No. 1180-22-1 (Jul. 11, 2023)

⁷ Blue Pearl Veterinary Partners, LLC v. Anderson, Record No. 1180-22-1 (Jul. 11, 2023) (citing Cf. Damages-Property of No Market Value, 12 A.L.R.2d 902, § 2 (1950))

⁸ Title 3.2 Agriculture, Animal Care, and Food Chapter 65 Comprehensive Animal Care §3.2-6585

⁹ Daughten v. Fox, 539 A.2d 858, 372 Pa.Super 405 (1988); Price v. Brown , 680 A.2d 1149 (Pa. 1996

¹⁰ See Daughten, *supra*.

¹¹ 3 Pa. Stat. §459-601

Delaware		Compensatory damages for death of a pet includes, “the fair market value of the pet before the death and reasonable and necessary cost of veterinary care” and for injury to a pet, “the reasonable and necessary cost of veterinary care” ¹²
New York	<p>A court has held the “proper measure of damages in a case involving injury suffered by a pet animal is the reasonable and necessary cost of reasonable veterinary treatment”.¹³</p> <p>The court also noted “[I]n cases of injury to animals...the plaintiff ought to recover for expenses reasonably incurred in efforts to cure them, in addition to the depreciation in their value, or to their whole value where they are finally lost. The law would be inhuman in its tendency if it should prescribe a different rule, even where the animal eventually dies; since it would then offer an inducement to the owner to neglect its sufferings.”¹⁴</p>	

¹² Delaware Code §10-3931

¹³ Zager v. Dimilia 138 Misc. 2d 488 (N.Y. Misc. 1988)

¹⁴ Zager v. Dimilia 138 Misc. 2d 488 (N.Y. Misc. 1988) citing (2 Shearman Redfield, Negligence §752 at 1291-1292 [5th ed 1898])

Please note the photos included below may be considered graphic.

Photo of Andy's incision taken at intake by clinic A on August 27th



Photo of Andy's incision taken at discharge by clinic A on August 28th



**Photo of Andy's incision taken after discharge from clinic A and before admittance to clinic B
on August 28th**



Owner: Sandy Popp
Phone: [REDACTED]
Email: [REDACTED]
Address: [REDACTED]

Invoice Status: Paid
Invoice No.: 621244167
Invoice Date: August 28, 2024

Invoice

Andy

Current Weight:
20.4kg

Next Appointment:
No upcoming appointments

Due Soon:
N/A

Today's visit

Description	Patient	Date	Quantity	Cost
Culture and Sensitivity Aerobic (Idexx 400)	Andy	8/28/2024	1	\$323.20
Unasyn - per mL	Andy	8/28/2024	40.8	\$160.82
Lyte 4, Lytes	Andy	8/28/2024	2	\$156.62
Amoxicillin and Clavulanate (500 mg/125 mg)	Andy	8/28/2024	10	\$35.72
CBC - Complete Blood Count	Andy	8/28/2024	1	\$131.14
PCV/TS (Single)	Andy	8/28/2024	1	\$49.15
Emergency Visit	Andy	8/28/2024	1	\$175.00
PKG: Hospitalization Level 2	Andy	8/28/2024	1	Incl.
↳ Hospitalization Level 2 (per hour)	Andy	8/28/2024	9	\$226.44
↳ Hospitalization Setup	Andy	8/28/2024	1	\$102.76
PKG: IV Fluids	Andy	8/28/2024	1	Incl.
↳ IV Fluids (Per Hour)	Andy	8/28/2024	9	\$116.64
↳ IV Fluid Set-Up	Andy	8/28/2024	1	\$43.51
↳ IV Catheter (Peripheral)	Andy	8/28/2024	1	\$129.35
Ultrasound POCUS Exam	Andy	8/28/2024	1	\$88.19
Charges utd as of 8/28 7 am KY	Andy	8/28/2024	1	\$0.00

PKG: Hospitalization Level 2	Andy	8/28/2024	1	Incl.
↳ Hospitalization Level 2 (per hour)	Andy	8/28/2024	12	\$301.92
↳ Inpatient Exam	Andy	8/28/2024	1	\$101.00
IV Fluids (Per Hour)	Andy	8/28/2024	12	\$155.52
Oral Medication Administration	Andy	8/28/2024	2	\$25.26
Ready For Discharge	Andy	8/28/2024	1	\$0.00
			Subtotal	\$2322.24
			Sales Tax	\$0.00
			Amount	\$2322.24
			Amount Paid	\$2322.24
			Amount Due	\$0

Payments:

Date	Method	Notes	Amount
8/28/2024 5:41 PM	Account Credit		\$2322.24

Owner: **Sandy Popp**
Phone: [REDACTED]
Email: [REDACTED]
Address: [REDACTED]

Invoice Status: **Paid**
Invoice No.: **620135797**
Invoice Date: **August 26, 2024**

Invoice

Andy

Current Weight:
20.4kg

Next Appointment:
No upcoming appointments

Due Soon:
N/A

Today's visit

Description	Patient	Date	Quantity	Cost
Chemistry 17 Panel - Catalyst	Andy	8/24/2024	1	\$268.01
CBC - Complete Blood Count	Andy	8/24/2024	1	\$131.14
Lyte 4, Lytes	Andy	8/26/2024	3	\$234.93
Propofol 10 mg/mL Inj per mL	Andy	8/24/2024	15	\$158.72
Reglan	Andy	8/26/2024	6.3	\$141.83
Gabapentin 300mg Capsules	Andy	8/25/2024	30	\$39.30
Protonix	Andy	8/26/2024	26.5	\$369.55
Ondansetron HCL (Zofran) Injectable (2 mg/ml) per ml	Andy	8/26/2024	47.7	\$576.04
Trazodone 100mg Tablets	Andy	8/25/2024	42	\$43.26
Proviabile DC Paste 30 mL, per kit	Andy	8/26/2024	2	\$156.40
Acepromazine Tablets: 25mg	Andy	8/25/2024	30	\$78.42
Metoclopramide 5mg Tablets	Andy	8/26/2024	18	\$29.82
Ondansetron 8mg Tablet	Andy	8/26/2024	15	\$32.97
Emergency Visit	Andy	8/24/2024	1	\$175.00

Radiographs With Radiologist Review	Andy	8/24/2024	1	\$525.61
PKG: IV Fluids	Andy	8/24/2024	1	Incl.
↳ IV Fluids (Per Hour)	Andy	8/24/2024	1	\$12.96
↳ IV Catheter (Peripheral)	Andy	8/24/2024	1	\$129.35
↳ IV Fluid Set-Up	Andy	8/24/2024	1	\$43.51
Emesis	Andy	8/24/2024	1	\$154.04
ET: Foreign Body (FB) Endoscopic (Scope) Retrieval	Andy	8/24/2024	1	Incl.
↳ Cerenia	Andy	8/24/2024	2.1	\$130.51
↳ Anesthesia Induction	Andy	8/24/2024	1	\$189.03
↳ Surgical Anesthesia	Andy	8/24/2024	0.5	\$152.87
Monitoring				
↳ Isoflurane - For	Andy	8/24/2024	0.5	\$74.67
Procedures				
↳ Endoscopy (Foreign Body)	Andy	8/24/2024	1	\$1558.07
PKG: CRI Starting Package	Andy	8/24/2024	1	Incl.
↳ CRI Set Up Fee	Andy	8/24/2024	1	\$101.13
↳ Fentanyl CRI 50 mcg/ml (per ml)	Andy	8/24/2024	20	\$144.60
ET: Foreign Body Surgery (24hrs)	Andy	8/25/2024	1	Incl.
↳ Operating Room Setup	Andy	8/25/2024	1	\$376.51
↳ Abdominal Laparotomy	Andy	8/25/2024	1	\$1165.17
↳ Enterotomy	Andy	8/25/2024	1	\$492.35
↳ Gastrotomy	Andy	8/25/2024	1	\$376.44
Surgical Anesthesia	Andy	8/25/2024	0.5	\$152.87
Monitoring				
Isoflurane - For	Andy	8/25/2024	0.5	\$74.67
Procedures				
Hospitalization Level 2 (per hour)	Andy	8/25/2024	6	\$150.96
Blood Pressure / BP (Serial - Per 12 Hours)	Andy	8/25/2024	1	\$113.59
Inpatient Exam	Andy	8/25/2024	1	\$101.00
Blood Glucose (Single)	Andy	8/25/2024	1	\$41.39
Blood Lactate (Single)	Andy	8/25/2024	1	\$43.98
charges utd 8/25 7am BC	Andy	8/25/2024	1	\$0.00
PKG: Hospitalization Level 2	Andy	8/25/2024	1	Incl.
↳ Hospitalization Level 2 (per hour)	Andy	8/25/2024	12	\$301.92
↳ Inpatient Exam	Andy	8/25/2024	1	\$101.00
PKG: CRI Continued Package	Andy	8/25/2024	1	Incl.
↳ CRI Maintenance Fee (per hour)	Andy	8/25/2024	12	\$98.76

Blood Pressure / BP (Single)	Andy	8/25/2024	1	\$84.08
Charges UTD 8/25 7pm MMC	Andy	8/25/2024	1	\$0.00
PKG: Hospitalization Level 2	Andy	8/26/2024	1	Incl.
↳ Hospitalization Level 2 (per hour)	Andy	8/26/2024	12	\$301.92
↳ Inpatient Exam	Andy	8/26/2024	1	\$101.00
PKG: IV Fluids	Andy	8/26/2024	1	Incl.
↳ IV Fluids (Per Hour)	Andy	8/26/2024	12	\$155.52
PKG: CRI Continued Package	Andy	8/26/2024	1	Incl.
↳ CRI Maintenance Fee (per hour)	Andy	8/26/2024	12	\$98.76
Cerenia	Andy	8/26/2024	2.08	\$129.88
Gabapentin 100mg Capsules	Andy	8/26/2024	2	\$29.78
Charges UTD, 7AM - BC	Andy	8/26/2024	1	\$0.00
PKG: Hospitalization Level 2	Andy	8/26/2024	1	Incl.
↳ Hospitalization Level 2 (per hour)	Andy	8/26/2024	1	\$25.16
↳ Inpatient Exam	Andy	8/26/2024	1	\$101.00
IV Fluids (Per Hour)	Andy	8/26/2024	19	\$246.24
PKG: CRI Continued Package	Andy	8/26/2024	1	Incl.
↳ CRI Maintenance Fee (per hour)	Andy	8/26/2024	1	\$8.23
Oral Medication Administration	Andy	8/26/2024	4	\$50.52
PCV/TS (Single)	Andy	8/26/2024	2	\$98.30
Ready For Discharge	Andy	8/26/2024	1	\$0.00

Subtotal	\$10672.74
Sales Tax	\$0.00
Amount	\$10672.74
Amount Paid	\$10672.74
Amount Due	\$0

Payments:

Date	Method	Notes	Amount
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BILL TO
Popp, Sandy

INVOICE #: 1274034

DATE: 09/03/2024

CUSTOMER #: 446848

ANIMAL: Andy

PATIENT ID:

DESCRIPTION	QTY	TOTAL
Consult - In House Transfer	1	\$250.00
Surgery - Emergency	1	\$660.00
Emergency Tech - New Case	1	\$488.00
Wound Closure - Extensive	1	\$1216.00
Aerobic Culture (ID and Susceptibility)	1	\$355.00
IDEXX In House Procyte CBC	1	\$120.00
Hospitalization - ICU II	1	\$260.00
Buprenorphine 0.5mg/mL	0.68	\$41.00
Ampicillin Sulb/Unasyn 30mg/ml Injection (per mL)	21.2	\$74.00
Hydromorphone 2mg/mL	1.17	\$45.00
Midazolam 5mg/mL	0.85	\$36.00
Propofol 10mg/mL Injection (per mL)	10.6	\$40.00
OR Setup - Major	1	\$383.00
Ligasure - ForceTriad	1	\$440.00
Surgery - Drain Closed Suction Small	1	\$255.00
Surgery - Drain Closed Suction Large	1	\$275.00
Suture/PDS - Pack	1	\$34.00
Suture/PDS - Pack	1	\$34.00
Suture/Monocryl - Pack	1	\$34.00
Suture/Nylon - Pack	1	\$34.00
Skin Staples	1	\$32.00
PlasmaLyte 1L	1	\$60.00
Enrofloxacin (Baytril) 22.7mg/mL Injection (Per mL)	9.34	\$74.00
Hydromorphone 2mg/mL	0.58	\$40.00
Hospitalization - ICU II	1	\$260.00
Ampicillin Sulb/Unasyn 30mg/ml Injection (per mL)	21.2	\$74.00
Buprenorphine 0.5mg/mL	0.68	\$41.00
Ampicillin Sulb/Unasyn 30mg/ml Injection (per mL)	21.2	\$74.00

Next Appointment:

We would love to hear about your experience with us. Visit [our website](#) or click on the client survey. To leave feedback on Google please go to the bottom of our website or click on the G+ in the location where your pet was seen. Follow us on Facebook

Subtotal
Inc. Tax \$9,031.00

Total \$10.00

\$9,031.00

Payment:

Visa : -7000.00 Mastercard :

-166.00 Visa : -1865.00

Balance Remaining: \$0.00

BILL TO
Popp, Sandy

INVOICE #: 1274034

DATE: 09/03/2024

CUSTOMER #: 446848

ANIMAL: Andy

PATIENT ID:

DESCRIPTION	QTY	TOTAL
Buprenorphine 0.5mg/mL	0.68	\$41.00
Hospitalization - ICU II	1	\$260.00
Entyce - In House (per mL)	2.12	\$16.00
Buprenorphine 0.5mg/mL	0.68	\$41.00
Ampicillin Sulb/Unasyn 30mg/ml Injection (per mL)	21.2	\$74.00
Enrofloxacin (Baytril) 22.7mg/mL Injection (Per mL)	9.34	\$74.00
Buprenorphine 0.5mg/mL	0.68	\$41.00
Hospitalization - ICU II	1	\$260.00
Ampicillin Sulb/Unasyn 30mg/ml Injection (per mL)	21.2	\$74.00
Buprenorphine 0.5mg/mL	0.68	\$41.00
Buprenorphine 0.5mg/mL	0.68	\$41.00
Catheter - IV Replacement	1	\$120.00
Ampicillin Sulb/Unasyn 30mg/ml Injection (per mL)	21.2	\$74.00
Hospitalization ICU II Weekend/Holiday	1	\$382.00
Marbofloxacin (Zeniquin) Tablets 100mg	10	\$115.00
Amoxi-Clav Tablets 375mg	30	\$123.00
Codeine Tablets 30mg	21	\$79.00
Gabapentin Capsules 100mg	42	\$21.00
Entyce - In House (per mL)	2.12	\$16.00
Amoxi-Clav Tablets 375mg - In House	1	\$9.00
Codeine Tablets 15mg - In House	1.5	\$10.00
Gabapentin Capsules 100mg - In House	2	\$6.00
Marbofloxacin Tablets 100mg - In House	1	\$15.00
Catheter - IV Replacement	1	\$120.00
Invoice Reviewed	1	\$0.00
Amoxi-Clav Tablets 375mg - In House	1	\$9.00
Codeine Tablets 15mg - In House	1.5	\$10.00
Gabapentin Capsules 100mg - In House	2	\$6.00

Next Appointment:

We would love to hear about your experience with us. Visit [\[redacted\]](#) on the client survey. To leave feedback on Google please go to the bottom of our website and click on the G+ in the location where your pet was seen. Follow us on Facebook [\[redacted\]](#)

Subtotal
Inc. TAX: \$9,031.00

Total \$0.00

\$9,031.00

Payment:

Visa : -7000.00 Mastercard :

-166.00 Visa : -1865.00

Balance Remaining: \$0.00



BILL TO
Poon. Sandv

INVOICE #: 1274034

DATE: 09/03/2024

CUSTOMER #: 446848

ANIMAL: Andy

PATIENT ID:

DESCRIPTION	QTY	TOTAL
Hospitalization - ICU II	1	\$260.00
PlasmaLyte 1L	1	\$60.00
Amoxi-Clav Tablets 375mg - In House	1	\$9.00
Codeine Tablets 15mg - In House	1.5	\$10.00
Gabapentin Capsules 100mg - In House	2	\$6.00
Hospitalization ICU II Weekend/Holiday	1	\$382.00
Amoxi-Clav Tablets 375mg - In House	1	\$9.00
Gabapentin Capsules 100mg - In House	2	\$6.00
Codeine Tablets 15mg - In House	1.5	\$10.00
Marbofloxacin Tablets 100mg - In House	1	\$15.00
Gabapentin Capsules 100mg - In House	2	\$6.00
Amoxi-Clav Tablets 375mg - In House	1	\$9.00
Codeine Tablets 15mg - In House	1.5	\$10.00
Hospitalization ICU II Weekend/Holiday	1	\$382.00
Amoxi-Clav Tablets 375mg - In House	1	\$9.00
Codeine Tablets 15mg - In House	1.5	\$10.00
Gabapentin Capsules 100mg - In House	2	\$6.00
Gabapentin Capsules 100mg - In House	2	\$6.00
Codeine Tablets 15mg - In House	1.5	\$10.00
Amoxi-Clav Tablets 375mg - In House	1	\$9.00
Trazodone Tablets 100mg	45	\$0.00

Next Appointment:

We would love to hear about your experience with us. Visit our client survey. To leave feedback on Google please go to the location where your pet was seen. Follow us on Facebook

Subtotal	
Inc. TAX	\$9,031.00
Total	\$9,031.00

Payment:
Visa : -7000.00 Mastercard :
-166.00 Visa : -1865.00

Balance Remaining: \$0.00

SB 581 Pet Compensatory Damage SWA 02112025 .pdf

Uploaded by: Nancy Egan

Position: FWA

Testimony of

American Property Casualty Insurance Association (APCIA)

Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee

Senate Bill 581 -Civil Actions – Tortious Injury to or Death of Pet - Compensatory Damages

February 11, 2025

Support with Amendments

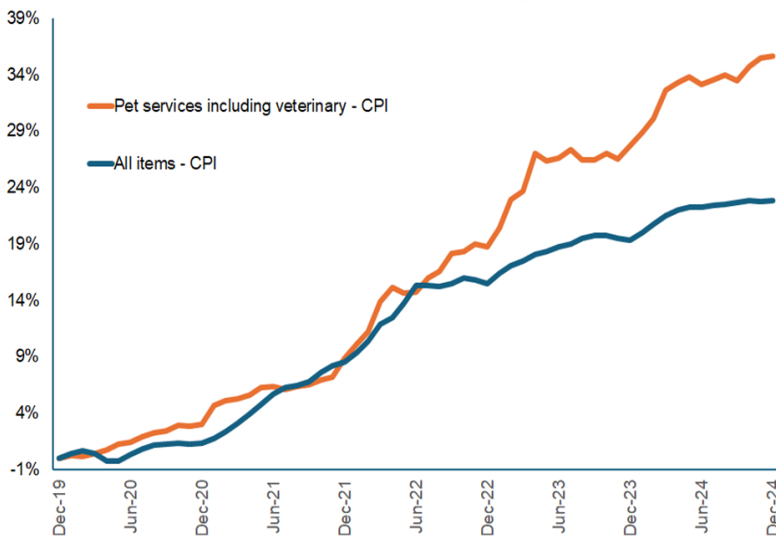
The American Property Casualty Insurance Association (APCIA) is the primary national trade organization representing nearly 71.4 percent of the Maryland property casualty insurance market. APCIA appreciates the opportunity to provide written testimony in opposition to Senate Bill 581.

The bill raises the current cap of \$10,000 to \$25,000 for the maximum amount of compensatory damages that may be awarded to an owner of a pet from a person who tortiously causes an injury to or death of the pet. Current law limits the “compensatory damages” recoverable to (1) the reasonable and necessary cost of veterinary care for a pet that was injured, and (2) in a case involving the death of a pet, the fair market value of the pet before death and the reasonable and necessary cost of veterinary care. When this law was first enacted, the amount recoverable was limited to \$2,500. This law was just revised in 2017, raising that limit from \$7,500 to \$10,000. Now, 8 years later, this bill would raise the cap to \$25,000.

The Insurance industry must caution that the unintended consequences of enacting such legislation, which introduces increased exposure from costly litigation and unlimited settlements, could include higher insurance costs or potentially less availability of coverage for Maryland consumers and businesses.

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, over the last five years, **inflation for pet services including veterinary has increased 35.7 percent.**

Cumulative Price Changes



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics.

If the same inflation rate was applied to the existing compensatory damages cap, this would translate to an increase of \$3,370, or a new cap of \$13,370.

Thus, at this time, APCIA believes a reasonable compensatory damages cap should not exceed \$15,000. As such, **APCIA opposes raising the limit to \$25,000 compensatory damages** and instead encourages the bill sponsor to consider a reasonable adjustment to account for inflation at \$15,000.

APCIA respectfully requests this amendment on Senate Bill 581.

Nancy J. Egan,

State Government Relations Counsel, DC, DE, MD, VA, WV

Nancy.egan@APCIA.org Cell: 443-841-4174