



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

**PO Box 1143
Easton, Maryland 21601**

**SB422: Research Facilities and Testing Facilities That Use Animals – Adoption and Reporting Requirements
Maryland Senate Education, Energy and Environment Committee**

February 12, 2026

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

Professional Animal Workers of Maryland, the state organization of animal control agencies and humane societies unanimously supports and encourages a favorable and speedy report on SB0422.

There are estimated to be hundreds of dogs and cats used in research facilities within Maryland each year. This bill, an extension of the Beagle Freedom Bill passed by legislature in 2016 adds requirements for reporting and planning for the next phase in these animals' lives. This common-sense bill requires laboratories and research facilities to provide a basic report on the number of dogs and cats used in testing in a calendar year and provide a plan for any dogs or cats which a veterinarian has cleared. Our organization supports these requirements and believes requiring research and testing facilities to be accountable for reporting how many adoptions they facilitate- comparable to the requirements of animal shelters in Maryland- will incentivize them to adopt as many eligible animals as possible. Dogs and cats used for research and testing in our state should have the same opportunities of finding homes as animals within our shelters.

The passing of SB422 is a common-sense extension of the already present law and allows Maryland to be a leading example on this issue. We support the bill and ask the committee for a favorable and speedy report on SB0422.

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