



2/23/2026

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

My name is Katie Haines, and I am the Assistant Director of Community Care and Advocacy at the Maryland SPCA. I am here to urge a speedy and favorable report on HB 912. This bill will allow citizens and organizations to continue to care for and practice TNR for community cats and prevent any local jurisdictions from prohibiting or restricting TNR efforts of these organizations and residents.

In 2025 alone, the Maryland SPCA took in 1,071 kittens and 1,352 adult cats. We regularly take in what we can “mega transports” of kittens from other counties to provide some relief to those shelters that experience an even greater volume of kitten and cat intake.

Community cat caretakers that support cat colonies do not simply feed stray cats; they’re looking after the health of the population by TNR’ing the cats in the colony. By spaying and neutering these community cats, they keep thousands of cats and kittens from entering the shelter system. The number one way to reduce pet homelessness is through spay and neuter. This bill will allow that to continue and set the stance across Maryland that we support TNR and that animal welfare includes care for community cats.

Sincerely,

**Katie Haines**

Assistant Director of Community Care & Advocacy

Maryland SPCA

