

**FINAL**

COUNTY COUNCIL OF ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY, MARYLAND

Legislative Session 2016, Legislative Day No. 3

Bill No. 11-16

Introduced by Mr. Fink, Chairman  
(by request of the County Executive)

By the County Council, February 1, 2016

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Introduced and first read on February 1, 2016  
Public Hearing set for and held on March 7, 2016  
Bill Expires May 6, 2016

By Order: Elizabeth E. Jones, Administrative Officer

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**A BILL ENTITLED**

1 AN ORDINANCE concerning: Animal Control – Dog and Cat License Fees and  
2 Adoption Fees

3  
4 FOR the purpose of reducing certain dog and cat license fees; eliminating the fee for  
5 adoption of animals from animal control; eliminating criteria for certain refunds or  
6 waivers of the adoption fee and for reimbursement of certain spaying and neutering  
7 costs; and generally related to the licensing of dogs and cats and adoption of animals.  
8

9 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments: §§ 12-4-702(a)(4); and 12-4-912  
10 Anne Arundel County Code (2005, as amended)  
11

12 SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the County Council of Anne Arundel County,*  
13 *Maryland,* That Section(s) of the Anne Arundel County Code (2005, as amended) read as  
14 follows:

15 **ARTICLE 12. PUBLIC SAFETY**

16  
17 **TITLE 4. ANIMAL CONTROL**

18  
19 **12-4-702. Dog and cat licenses.**

20  
21 (a) **Licenses generally.** A County resident who is not a dog fancier, cat fancier, or  
22 commercial kennel owner shall have and maintain a license under this subsection for

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS indicate new matter added to existing law.  
[Brackets] indicate matter stricken from existing law.  
Asterisks \*\*\* indicate existing Code provisions in a list or chart that remain unchanged.

1 each dog or cat owned.

2

3 (4) The fee for each license established in this subsection is set forth in the  
 4 following charts.

5

<b>Dog or cat license fees – Other than a dog fancier, cat fancier, or commercial kennel (1-year license)</b>		
	County residents under the age of 60 years	County residents at least 60 years old, or receiving disability benefits as a result of a finding of permanent and total disability
***		
For each spayed or neutered dog or cat or for a dog or cat for which spaying or neutering would pose a threat to the animal's health	[\$4] \$2	\$0
***		
<b>Dog or cat license fees – Other than a dog fancier, cat fancier, or commercial kennel (3-year license)</b>		
	County residents under the age of 60 years	County residents at least 60 years old, or receiving disability benefits as a result of a finding of permanent and total disability
***		
For each spayed or neutered dog or cat or for a dog or cat for which spaying or neutering would pose a threat to the animal's health	[\$10] \$5	\$0
***		

6

7 **12-4-912. Adopted animals – spaying or neutering fees; waiver of fees.**

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9 (a) **Scope.** This section does not apply to animals purchased from pet shops,  
 10 commercial kennels, or other commercial establishments.

11

12 (b) **Conditions for adoption.** An animal may not be adopted from an animal control  
 13 facility except on:

14

15 (1) approval by the Chief at the Chief's discretion;

16

17 (2) execution of any adoption contract established by the Chief; AND

18

19 (3) provision for spaying or neutering of the animal as provided in subsection

20

(c); and

1 (4) payment of a fee of:

2  
3 (i) \$25 for male dogs and puppies;

4  
5 (ii) \$40 for female dogs and puppies;

6  
7 (iii) \$10 for male cats and kittens; and

8  
9 (iv) \$20 for female cats and kittens].

10  
11 (c) **Spaying and neutering.** Each animal adopted from an animal control facility or  
12 a private, nonprofit animal shelter operated by a humane society or association shall be  
13 spayed or neutered:

14  
15 (1) by a licensed veterinarian at the expense of the adopter within 30 days of  
16 adoption or such other date as specified in the adoption agreement under the authority of  
17 the Chief or the shelter operator; or

18  
19 (2) if the animal is adopted from an animal control facility, as provided for by the  
20 Chief before the adoption.

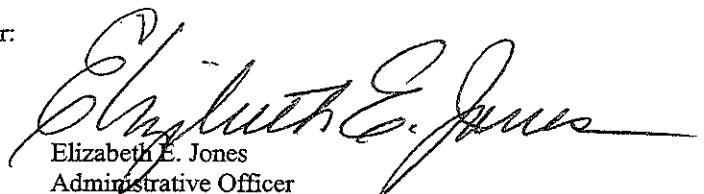
21  
22 (d) **Expenses.** If the adopter provides for the spaying or neutering of the animal  
23 under subsection (c)(1), the adopter shall provide evidence of the spaying or neutering as  
24 required by the Police Department or the shelter operator [and, if the adoption was from  
25 an animal control facility, the Police Department shall refund the adoption fee on receipt  
26 of the evidence. If the Chief provides for the spaying or neutering of the animal under  
27 subsection (c)(2), the adopter shall reimburse the Agency for the cost of the spaying or  
28 neutering that is in excess of the adoption fee established under subsection (b)(4).  
29

30 (e) **Waiver of adoption fees.** At the discretion of the Chief or the Chief's designee,  
31 Animal Control may waive some or all adoption fees, including, but not limited to, any  
32 fees listed in subsection (b)(4) and any expenses included in subsection (d). The length of  
33 time that a fee waiver applies shall be determined by the Chief or the Chief's designee  
34 and may be initiated or suspended at any time. The Chief or the Chief's designee shall  
35 waive adoption fees for the placement of an animal with a private, nonprofit animal  
36 shelter or rescue organization].

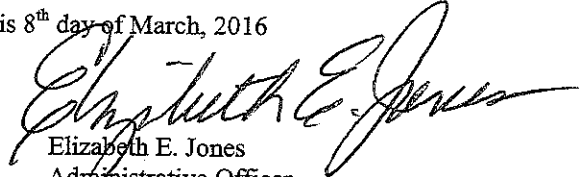
37  
38 SECTION 2. *And be it further enacted,* That this Ordinance shall take effect 45 days  
39 from the date it is enacted.

READ AND PASSED this 7<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2016


By Order:

  
Elizabeth E. Jones  
Administrative Officer

PRESENTED to the County Executive for his approval this 8<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2016


  
Elizabeth E. Jones  
Administrative Officer

APPROVED AND ENACTED this 9<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2016

  
Steven R. Schuh  
County Executive

EFFECTIVE DATE: April 23, 2016

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS IS A TRUE AND CORRECT COPY OF BILL NO.  
11-16 THE ORIGINAL OF WHICH IS RETAINED IN THE FILES  
OF THE COUNTY COUNCIL.

  
Elizabeth E. Jones  
Administrative Officer