

DOG FIGHT, IS GUILTY OF A ~~FELONY~~ MISDEMEANOR PUNISHABLE BY A FINE NOT EXCEEDING \$1,000 \$5,000 OR BY IMPRISONMENT NOT TO EXCEED 90 DAYS 3 YEARS, OR BOTH. Customary and normal veterinary and agricultural husbandry practices including but not limited to dehorning, castration, docking tails, and limit feeding, are not covered by the provisions of this section. In the case of activities in which physical pain may unavoidably be caused to animals, such as food processing, pest elimination, animal training, and hunting, cruelty shall mean a failure to employ the most humane method reasonably available. It is the intention of the General Assembly that all animals, whether they be privately owned, strays, domesticated, feral, farm, corporately or institutionally owned, under private, local, State, or federally funded scientific or medical activities, or otherwise being situated in Maryland shall be protected from intentional cruelty, but that no person shall be liable for criminal prosecution for normal human activities to which the infliction of pain to an animal is purely incidental and unavoidable.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 1986.

Approved April 29, 1986.

CHAPTER 204

(House Bill 413)

AN ACT concerning

Hospitals - Health Resources Planning Commission -
Certificate-of-Need
Worcester County Health Care Needs Assessment

FOR--the--purpose--of--prohibiting--the--State--Health--Resources
 Planning--Commission--from--denying--a--certificate--of--need
 application--to--certain--persons--under--certain--conditions--to
 construct--a--certain--hospital--in--a--county--where--that--type--of
 hospital--does--not--exist;--and--making--this--Act--an--emergency
 measure:

BY--adding--to

Article---Health---General
 Section-19-118(k)
 Annotated-Code-of-Maryland
 (1982-Volume-and-1985-Supplement)

SECTION--1,--BE--IT--ENACTED--BY--THE--GENERAL--ASSEMBLY--OF
 MARYLAND,--That--the--Laws--of--Maryland--read--as--follows: