



**BALTIMORE ANIMAL RESCUE & CARE SHELTER, INC.**

December 6, 2013

President and Members  
of the City Council  
409 City Hall

Dear President and City Council Members:

The Baltimore Animal Rescue and Care Shelter, Inc (BARCS) supports Bill 13-0292. The purpose of this bill is to allow reporting of animal abuse through the City's 911 and 311 systems and to expand the number of members of the Mayor's Anti-Animal Abuse Advisory Commission.

The 911 system should be used by the public when acts of violence are "in action" or an animal is experiencing extreme pain or suffering. The 311 system should continue to be used to report concerns of animal abuse, not currently "in action", neglect and related animal issues. Resources for clear reporting of crimes must be available to the public so that there can be appropriate responsive action as necessary.

Furthermore, expanding the members of the Commission will allow for more public involvement and enhance the awareness of, and actions taken against, animal abuse in our City.

For the reasons mentioned above, we support Council Bill 13-0292.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Brause  
Executive Director



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