

**CITY OF BALTIMORE
COUNCIL BILL 13-0292
(First Reader)**

Introduced by: Councilmembers Curran, Stokes, Clarke, Welch, Scott, Branch, Kraft,
Middleton, Holton, Reisinger, Cole, President Young

Introduced and read first time: November 4, 2013

Assigned to: Health Committee

REFERRED TO THE FOLLOWING AGENCIES: City Solicitor, Health Department, Baltimore Animal
Rescue and Care Shelter (BARCS), Mayor's Anti-Animal Abuse Advisory Commission, Police
Department, Baltimore City State's Attorney's Office, Baltimore City Sheriff's Office

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ORDINANCE concerning

2 **Animal Abuse – Reporting and Community Involvement**

3 FOR the purpose of allowing the reporting of animal abuse through the City's 911 system as well
4 as the 311 system; correcting a misnumbered statutory unit; expanding the number of at-large
5 members serving on the Mayor's Anti-Animal Abuse Advisory Commission; clarifying and
6 conforming related provisions; and generally relating to efforts to combat the abuse of
7 animals.

8 BY repealing and reordaining, with amendments

9 Article - Health
10 Section(s) 10-114
11 Baltimore City Revised Code
12 (Edition 2000)

13 BY renumbering

14 Article - Health
15 Part II. Complaint Process
16 to be
17 Part III. Complaint Process
18 Baltimore City Revised Code
19 (Edition 2000)

20 BY repealing and reordaining, with amendments

21 Article 1 - Mayor, City Council, and Municipal Agencies
22 Section(s) 55-3
23 Baltimore City Code
24 (Edition 2000)

25 **SECTION 1. BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE,** That the
26 Laws of Baltimore City read as follows:

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS indicate matter added to existing law.
[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Council Bill 13-0292

Baltimore City Revised Code

Article – Health

Title 10. Animal Control and Protection

Subtitle 1. General Provisions

[Part II] PART III. Complaint Process

§ 10-114. Initiation of complaint.

(a) *In general.*

Any person may submit a complaint to the Office if the person knows of, OR HAS REASON TO SUSPECT:

(1) a violation of this title or of a rule or regulation adopted under this title; or

(2) a violation of any other animal control or protection law, rule, or regulation of this City or State.

(b) *Form.*

The complaint must be:

(1) a written complaint in a form that the Office requires; or

(2) an oral complaint that is recorded in the City's 911 EMERGENCY CALL SYSTEM OR 311 NON-EMERGENCY CALL system.

(c) *Minimum contents.*

The complaint must:

(1) describe the animal;

(2) identify where it is located; and

(3) state in clear language how the animal, OR ITS TREATMENT, is in violation of any law or regulation.

Baltimore City Code

Article 1. Mayor, City Council, and Municipal Agencies

Subtitle 55. Mayor's Anti-Animal Abuse Advisory Commission

Council Bill 13-0292

1 **§ 55-3. Advisory Commission membership.**

2 (a) *In general.*

3 (1) The Advisory Commission consists of [26] 28 members.

4 (2) Of these:

5 (i) [15] 17 members are appointed by the Mayor in accordance with Article IV, §
6 6 of the Baltimore City Charter; and

7 (ii) 11 members are agency representatives.

8 (b) *Appointed members.*

9 The [15] 17 appointed members of the Advisory Commission are as follows:

10 (1) 1 member representing each of the following 4 organizations:

11 (i) Maryland SPCA;

12 (ii) The Snyder Foundation for Animals;

13 (iii) the ASPCA; and

14 (iv) the Baltimore Animal Rescue and Care Shelter.

15 (2) 1 City Council member, nominated by the President of the City Council.

16 (3) 1 judge.

17 (4) 1 veterinarian practicing in Baltimore City.

18 (5) [4] 5 at-large members.

19 (6) [4] 5 at-large members, nominated by the President of the City Council.

20 (c) *Agency representatives.*

21 The 11 agency representatives are the following, or their designated representatives:

22 (1) the Director of the Bureau of Animal Control.

23 (2) the Health Commissioner.

24 (3) the Director of Juvenile Services.

25 (4) the Director of Social Services.

26 (5) the Mayor.

Council Bill 13-0292

- 1 (6) the President of the City Council.
- 2 (7) the State’s Attorney for Baltimore City.
- 3 (8) the Police Commissioner.
- 4 (9) the Baltimore City Sheriff.
- 5 (10) the Commissioner of Housing.
- 6 (11) the CEO of the Baltimore City Public School System

7 (d) *Appointment without regard to political affiliation.*

8 The appointment of members must be made without regard to political affiliation.

9 **SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED,** That the catchlines contained in this Ordinance
10 are not law and may not be considered to have been enacted as a part of this or any prior
11 Ordinance.

12 **SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED,** That this Ordinance takes effect on the 30th day
13 after the date it is enacted.