

(d) [In Howard and Montgomery Counties, the county council shall prescribe by law the manner in which the powers, duties and responsibilities placed within its jurisdiction and control by this section shall be exercised.

(e) In Washington County, the Board of County Commissioners shall prescribe by ordinance or resolution the manner in which the powers, duties, and responsibilities placed within its jurisdiction and control by this section shall be exercised.

(f) In Kent County, the application to the sheriff shall be made within thirty days after the occurrence of the injury or destruction.

(g) In Somerset and Dorchester Counties, this section does not apply.

(h) In Carroll and Frederick Counties, the Board of County Commissioners shall prescribe by ordinance or resolution the manner in which the powers, duties, and responsibilities placed within its jurisdiction and control by this section shall be exercised. An award granted by the County Commissioners for damages may not exceed \$300.

(i) In Garrett County, the Board of County Commissioners shall prescribe by ordinance or resolution the manner in which the powers, duties, and responsibilities placed within its jurisdiction and control by this section shall be exercised.

(j) In Caroline County, the Board of County Commissioners shall prescribe by ordinance or resolution the manner in which the powers, duties, and responsibilities placed within its jurisdiction and control by this section shall be exercised.

(k) In Baltimore County, the County Council may prescribe by law the manner in which the powers, duties, and responsibilities of this section shall be exercised.

(l) In Harford County, the County Council shall prescribe by ordinance the manner in which the powers, duties, and responsibilities placed within its jurisdiction and control by this section shall be exercised. An award granted by the County Council for damages may not exceed \$500 per animal or \$5,000 per incident.] IF A COUNTY GOVERNING BODY DOES NOT ADOPT A LOCAL LAW OR ORDINANCE UNDER THIS SECTION, THE COUNTY IS NOT REQUIRED TO COMPENSATE ANY PERSON FOR SHEEP, POULTRY, OR LIVESTOCK DESTROYED OR INJURED BY A DOG.

EXPLANATION: Article 24, § 11-508 requires the county commissioners of certain counties to compensate persons whose sheep, poultry, or livestock is destroyed or damaged by dogs from a dog license fund. Although several counties have paid claims in recent years under this provision, staff recommends that this requirement be modified to authorize each county to adopt a local law or ordinance to address this issue. Since the provision would become discretionary, single county exceptions would be repealed. For consistency, Article 24, § 11-507 is modified to authorize each county to deposit dog license fees in a special account or in the county's general fund. This modification allows the repeal of single county provisions in § 11-507.

Article 25 – County Commissioners