

HOUSE BILL 1107

Q3

4lr2926

By: **Delegates Rose, Bagnall, Bouchat, Buckel, Fair, Lehman, Miller, T. Morgan, Ruth, Stonko, Terrasa, Tomlinson, Vogel, and Ziegler**

Introduced and read first time: February 7, 2024

Assigned to: Ways and Means

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Income Tax – Credit for Spaying and Neutering Dogs and Cats**

3 FOR the purpose of allowing a credit against the State income tax for certain qualified
4 expenses incurred by an individual during the taxable year to spay or neuter a dog
5 or cat owned by the individual; and generally relating to a State income tax credit
6 for spaying or neutering a dog or cat.

7 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,

8 Article – Agriculture

9 Section 2–304.1(a) and (b)

10 Annotated Code of Maryland

11 (2016 Replacement Volume and 2023 Supplement)

12 BY adding to

13 Article – Tax – General

14 Section 10–758

15 Annotated Code of Maryland

16 (2022 Replacement Volume and 2023 Supplement)

17 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,

18 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

19 **Article – Agriculture**

20 2–304.1.

21 (a) As used in this subtitle, “veterinary hospital” means any building or portion
22 of a building which is regularly used for the treatment of animals by a veterinary
23 practitioner.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (b) Every veterinary hospital shall be licensed by the Board. The Board shall set
2 the annual license fee in accordance with § 2-303(b) of this subtitle. The license shall be
3 applied for and issued to the owner of the hospital.

4 **Article – Tax – General**

5 **10-758.**

6 (A) IN THIS SECTION, “QUALIFIED EXPENSES” MEANS EXPENSES INCURRED
7 TO SPAY OR NEUTER A DOG OR CAT AT A VETERINARY HOSPITAL, AS DEFINED IN §
8 2-304.1 OF THE AGRICULTURE ARTICLE, IN THE STATE.

9 (B) (1) SUBJECT TO THE LIMITATIONS OF THIS SECTION, AN INDIVIDUAL
10 MAY CLAIM A CREDIT AGAINST THE STATE INCOME TAX FOR UP TO \$100 OF
11 QUALIFIED EXPENSES INCURRED BY THE INDIVIDUAL DURING THE TAXABLE YEAR
12 TO SPAY OR NEUTER A DOG OR CAT OWNED BY THE INDIVIDUAL.

13 (2) FOR ANY TAXABLE YEAR, AN INDIVIDUAL MAY CLAIM THE CREDIT
14 UNDER THIS SECTION ONLY ONCE.

15 (C) TO QUALIFY FOR A CREDIT UNDER THIS SECTION, AN INDIVIDUAL MUST
16 ATTACH TO THE INDIVIDUAL’S INCOME TAX RETURN OR OTHERWISE FILE WITH THE
17 COMPTROLLER PROOF OF THE QUALIFIED EXPENSES PAID BY THE INDIVIDUAL
18 DURING THE TAXABLE YEAR.

19 (D) IF THE CREDIT ALLOWED UNDER THIS SECTION IN ANY TAXABLE YEAR
20 EXCEEDS THE STATE INCOME TAX FOR THAT TAXABLE YEAR, THE INDIVIDUAL MAY
21 CLAIM A REFUND IN THE AMOUNT OF THE EXCESS.

22 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
23 1, 2024, and shall be applicable to all taxable years beginning after December 31, 2023.