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BILL NO.: **SB 128**

TITLE: Local Government – Animal Control Facilities – Adoption Fee Waiver for Veterans (Pets for Vets Act of 2020)

SPONSOR: Senator Simonaire

COMMITTEE: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

POSITION: **SUPPORT**

DATE: January 29, 2020

Baltimore County **SUPPORTS** Senate Bill 128 – Local Government – Animal Control Facilities – Adoption Fee Waiver for Veterans (Pets for Vets Act of 2020). This bill requires an animal control facility operated by a county or municipality to waive the adoption fee for a dog or cat adopted by a veteran.

SB 128 will make it easier for the Baltimore County Animal Shelter to promote pet adoption among veterans. This policy would be in line with other promotions already utilized by the agency. Veterans are currently offered 50% off of adoption fees every day and free adoptions on Memorial Day and Veterans Day. This bill provides a small financial benefit to veterans in recognition of their brave service to our Country and helps to find homes for pets that might otherwise not be adopted.

Accordingly, Baltimore County requests **FAVORABLE** report on SB 128. For more information, please contact Chuck Conner, Chief Legislative Officer, at 443-900-6582.