



## House Bill 1179

### *Housing and Community Development - Pets in Housing Developments*

MACo Position: **SUPPORT**  
**WITH AMENDMENTS**

To: Environment & Transportation Committee

Date: March 5, 2024

From: Dominic J. Butchko

The Maryland Association of Counties (MACo) **SUPPORTS** HB 1179 **WITH AMENDMENTS**. This bill sets certain guardrails on a landlord's ability to charge tenants fees for pets.

Counties play a significant role in protecting the health and safety of Maryland residents. Part of that role involves boots-on-the-ground determinations in regulating certain pet species. Due to an error in the drafting process, HB 1179 would remove that authority and potentially place state and local mutual constituents in danger. Counties have been working with both the sponsor and the bill's advocates and on amendments to address this error.

*Amendment Language:*

On Page 2, in line 28-30, 2-304 (C) (2) (II): strike "*STATE OR POLITICAL SUBDIVISION OF THE STATE*" and substitute "*AN OWNER OR AN AGENT OF AN OWNER OF A HOUSING DEVELOPMENT*"

MACo thanks the sponsor and the bill advocates for the collaboration and partnership in finding a solution. For this reason, MACo urges the Committee to give HB 1179 a **FAVORABLE WITH AMENDMENTS** report.