

1 VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY — CHAPTER

2 *An Act to amend the Code of Virginia by adding in Article 9 of Chapter 65 of Title 3.2 a section*
3 *numbered 3.2-6573.1, relating to local animal cruelty registries.*

4 [S 93]

5 Approved

6 **Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**7 **1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding in Article 9 of Chapter 65 of Title 3.2 a**
8 **section numbered 3.2-6573.1 as follows:**9 **§ 3.2-6573.1. Local animal cruelty registries.**

10 *A. Any locality may establish, organize, and maintain a computerized animal cruelty registry as a*
11 *database of information regarding persons convicted of a felony violation of (i) cruelty to animals as*
12 *provided by § 3.2-6570; (ii) animal fighting as provided by § 3.2-6571; (iii) maiming, killing, or*
13 *poisoning an animal as provided by § 18.2-144; or (iv) killing or injuring a police animal as provided*
14 *by § 18.2-144.1. Information on such registry may include the name and address of the offender at the*
15 *time of conviction as well as the offense for which the offender was convicted and the date and place of*
16 *conviction. Access to such registry may be made available to the public on the website of the locality or*
17 *local police department.*

18 *B. On a form promulgated by a locality or local police department, a person may request removal of*
19 *his name and information from a registry established in subsection A not less than 15 years after the*
20 *violation that warranted inclusion in the registry, provided he has no additional felony convictions of an*
21 *offense listed in subsection A.*

22 *C. A locality that has established a registry pursuant to subsection A may adopt ordinances and*
23 *develop forms to implement the provisions of this section, including the operation and maintenance of a*
24 *registry and the removal of records on persons who are deceased, whose convictions have been reversed*
25 *or who have been pardoned, or who have requested removal pursuant to subsection B.*

26 *D. All costs to establish, organize, and maintain a locality's animal cruelty registry pursuant to this*
27 *section shall be borne by such locality.*