

The Task Force

The Maryland Spay/Neuter Task Force was created by the Maryland General Assembly and Governor O'Malley in 2011. Members included representatives from animal control agencies, shelters, the pet industry, State and county agencies, rescues, animal welfare advocates, veterinarians, and the Maryland Senate and House of Delegates.

The Task Force members researched, studied, heard testimony, and analyzed data over a nearly 2 year period. The Task Force found that there is a shelter pet population problem in Maryland that places significant cost burdens on local governments, trauma on the staff of animal shelters, and presents an avoidable and unnecessary loss of animal life. The Task Force recommended increasing spay/neuter surgeries through a well-designed program to reduce intake and euthanasia rates of unwanted animals in Maryland animal shelters.

The Task Force Report to the Maryland General Assembly will be submitted for the 2013 legislative session. It is anticipated that bills implementing the recommendations of the Task Force will be introduced to the Maryland Senate and House of Delegates for consideration during the 2013 legislative session.

The spay/neuter program recommended by the Task Force will save lives and money.



State Spay/Neuter Task Force signed into law by Governor O'Malley, with Senate President, Mike Miller and Speaker of the House, Mike Busch. Back row: Frank Branchini, Durand Ford, Senator Benson, Carolyn Kilborn, Delegate Frush, Wendy Cozonne, Tami Santelli.

