

COUNTY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND
Legislative Session 2007, Legislative Day No. 21

Bill No. 86-07

Mr. S. G. Samuel Moxley, Chairman
By Request of County Executive

By the County Council, November 19, 2007

A BILL
ENTITLED

AN ACT concerning

Rodent Control

FOR the purpose of authorizing the Code official to enforce rodent control ordinances; defining a certain term; and generally relating to rodent control.

By renumbering

Section 13-7-301(d), (e), (f), (g), (h), (i), and (j) to be Section 13-7-301(e), (f), (g), (h), (i), (j), and (k)
Article 13. Public Health, Safety and the Environment
Title 7. Nuisances
Baltimore County Code, 2003

By adding

Section 13-7-301(d)
Article 13. Public Health, Safety and the Environment
Title 7. Nuisances
Baltimore County Code, 2003

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.
 [Brackets] indicate matter stricken from existing law.
 ~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from bill.
 Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

By repealing and reenacting, with amendments

Sections 13-7-303, 13-7-304, 13-7-305(a), 13-7-306(a), 13-7-307(a)(1) and (2)(ii), and 13-7-315
Article 13. Public Health, Safety and the Environment
Title 7. Nuisances
Baltimore County Code, 2003

1 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNTY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE
2 COUNTY, MARYLAND, that Section 13-7-301(d), (e), (f), (g), (h), (i), and (j) of Article 13. Public
3 Health, Safety and the Environment, Title 7. Nuisances, of the Baltimore County Code, 2003, as
4 amended, is hereby renumbered to be Section 13-7-301(e), (f), (g), (h), (i), (j), and (k).

5 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, that Section 13-7-301(d) is hereby added
6 to Article 13. Public Health, Safety and the Environment, Title 7. Nuisances, of the Baltimore
7 County Code, 2003, as amended, to read as follows:
8 § 13-7-301.

9 (D) “CODE OFFICIAL” HAS THE MEANING STATED IN § 3-6-101 OF THE CODE.

10 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, that Sections 13-7-303, 13-7-304, 13-7-
11 305(a), 13-7-306(a), 13-7-307(a)(1) and (2)(ii), and 13-7-315 of Article 13. Public Health, Safety
12 and the Environment, Title 7. Nuisances, of the Baltimore County Code, 2003, as amended, be and
13 they are hereby repealed and reenacted, with amendments, to read as follows:
14 § 13-7-303.

15 (a) Subject to subsection (d) of this section, in order to ascertain whether there is
16 evidence of rat infestation, rat harborage, or inadequate rat-proofing, the director OR THE CODE

1 OFFICIAL may inspect the interior and exterior of a building and other areas.

2 (b) Except as provided in § 13-1-103 of this article, if the Director OR THE CODE
3 OFFICIAL finds conditions of rat infestation, rat harborage, or inadequate rat-proofing, the Director
4 OR THE CODE OFFICIAL shall give the owner or occupant of the building notice, in the manner
5 provided in § 13-7-102 of this title, of the condition and an order to:

6 (1) Take rat eradication steps in the building as provided in § 13-7-305 of this
7 subtitle;

8 (2) Correct a rat harborage problem as provided in § 13-7-306 of this subtitle; or

9 (3) Rat-proof the building as provided in § 13-7-307 of this subtitle.

10 (c) The Director OR THE CODE OFFICIAL may make additional inspections to
11 determine whether conditions stated in a notice are abated and the building is being continuously
12 maintained in a satisfactory manner.

13 (d) (1) This section does not authorize the Director OR THE CODE OFFICIAL to
14 enter a building by force to make an inspection.

15 (2) If the owner or occupant of a dwelling or dwelling unit refuses to allow entry
16 for an inspection, the Director OR THE CODE OFFICIAL may enter for an inspection only through
17 a properly issued warrant in accordance with law.

18 § 13-7-304.

19 If the CODE OFFICIAL, THE County Health Officer or the Director finds that a public
20 health emergency exists because the infestation of a building, structure, dump, or other premises by
21 rodents or other vermin is likely to cause disease to be spread to human beings, the CODE
22 OFFICIAL, THE County Health Officer or the Director may summarily abate the condition of

1 infestation without prior notice to owners or occupants.

2 § 13-7-305.

3 (a) When the Director OR THE CODE OFFICIAL notifies the owner or occupant of a
4 building or premises, in writing, that there is evidence of rat infestation of the building or premises,
5 the owner or occupant shall:

6 (1) Institute rat eradication measures immediately; and

7 (2) Maintain the rat eradication measures continuously in a satisfactory manner
8 until:

9 (i) The building or premises is free of rats; and

10 (ii) The Director OR THE CODE OFFICIAL advises the owner or
11 occupant that there is no evidence of rat infestation.

12 § 13-7-306.

13 (a)(1) If conditions in, under, or outside a building provide a rat harborage, the Director OR
14 THE CODE OFFICIAL may notify the owner or occupant in writing to remove or abate the rat
15 harborage within a specified time that may not be less than 15 days.

16 (2) The Director OR THE CODE OFFICIAL may grant a written extension on
17 the time required under this subsection.

18 § 13-7-307.

19 (a)(1) When the Director OR THE CODE OFFICIAL notifies the owner of a building, in
20 writing, that there appears to be inadequate or no rat-proofing in the building, the owner immediately
21 shall take steps to rat-proof the building.

22 (2) (ii) The Director OR THE CODE OFFICIAL may grant a written

1 extension on the time required under this subsection.

2 § 13-7-315.

3 The Director OR THE CODE OFFICIAL may enforce the provisions of this subtitle in
4 accordance with Article 3, Title 6 of the Code.

5 SECTION 4. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, that this Act, having been passed by the
6 affirmative vote of five members of the County Council, shall take effect on December 30, 2007.

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