

Department of Planning and Budget
2003 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number HB1865

House of Origin ☐ Introduced ☐ Substitute ☒ Engrossed

Second House ☒ In Committee ☐ Substitute ☐ Enrolled

2. Patron O'Bannon

3. Committee Agriculture, Conservation & Natural Resources

4. Title Abandoning or dumping companion animals.

5. Summary/Purpose: Increases the penalty for dumping a companion animal on public property from a Class 3 misdemeanor to the equivalent of a Class 1 misdemeanor.

6. Fiscal Impact Estimates: See Item 8.

7. Budget amendment necessary: No.

8. Fiscal implications: The present penalty of a Class 3 misdemeanor only involves fines, whereas anyone convicted of a Class 1 misdemeanor is also subject to a sentence of up to 12 months in jail. Any increase in jail population will increase costs to the state.

The Commonwealth pays the localities \$8.00 a day for each misdemeanor or otherwise local responsible prisoner held in a jail. It also funds the majority of the jails' operating costs, e.g. correctional officers. The state's share of these costs varies from locality to locality. According to the Compensation Board's most recent Jail Cost Report (FY 2001), the estimated total state support for local jails averaged \$31.83 per inmate, per day in FY 2001.

9. Specific agency or political subdivisions affected: Compensation Board, local and regional jails.

10. Technical amendment necessary: No.

11. Other comments: None.

Date: 02/06/03/jgc

Document: DPB G:\JGC\2003session \BillsEFIS \Submitted\HB1865H1.doc

cc: Secretary of Administration