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HOUSE BILL NO. 2338

Offered January 12, 2005 Prefiled January 11, 2005

A BILL to amend and reenact § 3.1-796.84 of the Code of Virginia, relating to permits to sell companion animals; civil penalty.

Patron—Athey

Referred to Committee on Agriculture, Chesapeake and Natural Resources

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That § 3.1-796.84 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:

§ 3.1-796.84. Local ordinances; civil penalty.

The governing body of any county, city or town may shall, by local ordinance, require a person operating a pet shop or operating as a dealer in companion animals to obtain a permit. Such local governing body may charge no more than fifty dollars \$50 per year for such permit. The revenues derived therefrom shall be used for the administration and enforcement of such ordinance.

The aforementioned local ordinance may provide: (i) that records be kept by the permittees as are deemed necessary; (ii) for public hearing prior to issuance, renewal or revocation of any such permit; or (iii) for the denial of issuance, denial of renewal or for the revocation of such permit for fraudulent practices or inhumane treatment of the animals dealt with by the permittee.

The local ordinance may shall also provide penalties a penalty of \$500 for any violation of the ordinance not to exceed those of a Class 3 misdemeanor.