

## Department of Planning and Budget 2005 Fiscal Impact Statement

**1. Bill Number:** HB2927

<b>House of Origin</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Introduced	<input type="checkbox"/> Substitute	<input type="checkbox"/> Engrossed
<b>Second House</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> In Committee	<input type="checkbox"/> Substitute	<input type="checkbox"/> Enrolled

**2. Patron:** Kilgore

**3. Committee:** Agriculture, Chesapeake, and Natural Resources

**4. Title:** Companion animals; civil penalties

**5. Summary/Purpose:** The bill Amends the Comprehensive Animal Laws to require: (i) companion animal dealers to obtain an annual dealer business license to sell companion animals or to advertise companion animals for sale; and (ii) all releasing agencies, including dealers, pet stores, and for-profit breeders, to sterilize and implant a microchip in any companion animal before it is released to a new owner.

**6. Fiscal impact:** See item 8.

**7. Budget amendment necessary:** No.

**8. Fiscal implications:** The bill does not have a fiscal impact for the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services. There may be some additional costs to local governments for administering animal dealer business licenses. The bill provides for: (1) a \$150 local dealer business license; (2) a \$1,000 civil assessments against dealers who fail to register; (3) a \$150 civil penalty for pet owners who fail to obtain a copy of the dealer's business license; and (4) a \$150 civil penalty for releasing agencies who fail to sterilize and implant with a microchip a companion animal. The civil penalties and licenses are local revenue. There may be some costs to the judicial system for the assessment of civil penalties.

**9. Specific agency or political subdivisions affected:** Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, local governments, judicial system.

**10. Technical amendment necessary:** No.

**11. Other comments:** None.

**Date:** 1/29/05 kbs

**Document:** G:\05 Fis\Hb2927.Doc

cc: Secretary of Agriculture and Forestry