

## Department of Planning and Budget 2007 Fiscal Impact Statement

**1. Bill Number:** HB2098

<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:** Alexander

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

**4. Title:** Tethering of animals

**5. Summary/Purpose:** The bill makes certain acts associated with the tethering of animals a Class 3 misdemeanor. The bill prohibits such actions as (i) tethering an animal that is less than six months old, except in an emergency, (ii) tethering an animal that has not been spayed or neutered, except in an emergency, and (iii) using a tether weighing more than the animal can reasonable bear. Local governments are authorized to adopt an animal tethering ordinance that can be more restrictive than the proposed statute.

**6. Fiscal impact estimates are:** Indeterminate. See item 8.

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

**8. Fiscal implications:** Anyone found guilty of a Class 3 misdemeanor is subject to a fine up to \$500. The revenue may not be estimated at this time.

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

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

**11. Other comments:** None.

**Date:** 1/15/07 kbs

**Document:** G:\07 FIS\DACS\HB2098.Doc

cc: Secretary of Agriculture and Forestry