

## Department of Planning and Budget 2009 Fiscal Impact Statement

**1. Bill Number:** HB2393

House of Origin    ☐    Introduced    ☒    Substitute    ☐    Engrossed  
Second House    ☐    In Committee    ☐    Substitute    ☐    Enrolled

**2. Patron:**    Bell

**3. Committee:** Courts of Justice

**4. Title:**    Animal control officers, inclusion in obstruction of justice

**5. Summary:** The substitute bill prohibits obstruction of justice in the performance of an animal control officer's duties.

**6. Fiscal Impact Estimates:** Indeterminate. See item 8.

**7. Budget Amendment Necessary:** Yes. See item 8.

**8. Fiscal Implications:** The bill does not have a fiscal impact for the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services.

Violators of the provisions of the bill shall be guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor. Anyone convicted of a Class 1 misdemeanor is subject to a sentence of up to 12 months in jail. There is not enough information available to reliably estimate how many additional inmates in jail could result from this proposal. Any increase in jail population will increase costs to the state. The Commonwealth pays the localities \$8.00 a day for each misdemeanant or otherwise local responsible prisoner held in a jail. It also funds most of the jails' operating costs, e.g. correctional officers. The state's share of these costs on a per prisoner, per day basis varies from locality to locality. However, according to the Compensation Board's most recent Jail Cost Report (November 2008), the estimated state support for local jails averaged \$28.77 per inmate, per day in FY 2007.

**9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected:** Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, judicial system.

**10. Technical Amendment Necessary:** No.

**11. Other Comments:** None.

**Date:** 2/10/2009    dpbkbs

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cc: Secretary of Agriculture and Consumer Services