

Department of Planning and Budget 2011 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: HB2482

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

2. Patron: Ware, R.L.

3. Committee: Agriculture, Chesapeake and Natural Resources

4. Title: Animal care; enforcement procedures and standards related to animal cruelty.

5. Summary: Provides new procedures for the impoundment, seizure, return or forfeiture of animals when the owner or custodian is suspected of animal welfare violations. Animals in the custody or possession of dealers or pet shops that fail to adequately care for such animals shall be subject to impoundment by such dealer or pet shop pursuant to any directive or under any supervision as may be provided by the investigating official, animal control officer, or State Veterinarian's representative. Such animals are subject to seizure if (i) under a direct and immediate threat or (ii) the owner or custodian is unable to or does not provide adequate impoundment. Upon conviction of such person, impounded or seized animals may be forfeited or returned to the owner or custodian at the discretion of the court. The bill also repeals the prohibition on persons that have been convicted of animal cruelty from selling or trading companion animals. The welfare requirement that emergency veterinary treatment is provided for animals under certain conditions will no longer include treatment for disease progression.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: No

7. Fiscal Impact Estimates: There is no fiscal impact to the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services.

8. Fiscal Implications: The passage of this bill will have no fiscal impact to the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services. However, the bill may result in a resource strain on localities and their animal control operations.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, local government(s)

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No

11. Other Comments: None

Date: 1/28/2011