

## Department of Planning and Budget 2012 Fiscal Impact Statement

**1. Bill Number:** HB537

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

**2. Patron:** Orrock, R. D.

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

**4. Title:** Dangerous dog registry.

**5. Summary:** This bill changes the procedure by which dangerous dogs are registered in Virginia. The bill requires an animal control officer, instead of the State Veterinarian, to post dangerous dog registration information on the registry website. Currently, the animal control officer provides a copy of the registration certificate and verification of compliance of the owner with the registration procedures to the State Veterinarian. The owner of an animal found to be a dangerous dog has to obtain a registration certificate from the local animal control officer or treasurer with 45 days, whereas current law requires the owner to obtain a certificate within 10 days. The fee for the certificate is increased from \$50 to \$150; however, the \$100 fee currently required to be paid to the State Veterinarian is removed. By January 31 of each year, the certificate has to be updated and renewed by the owner at a fee of \$85. A portion of the fees collected, \$90 and \$25 respectively, shall go to the State Veterinarian to maintain the registry.

**6. Budget Amendment Necessary:** No.

**7. Fiscal Impact Estimates:** Preliminary. See item 8.

**8. Fiscal Implications:** It is expected that this legislation will have no fiscal impact on the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services. While the fees due to the State Veterinarian from the dog owner are not longer required, reimbursement will still be paid to the State Veterinarian by the local government in order to maintain the dangerous dog registry. As such, there is no significant fiscal impact resulting from this legislation.

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

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

**11. Other Comments:** None.

**Date:** 1/18/12

**Document:** G:\Legislation\2012 Session\HB537.DOC