

Commission on Local Government

Estimate of Local Fiscal Impact
2013 General Assembly Session

Bill: HB 1859 **Patron:** Orrock **Date:** January 24, 2013

In accordance with the provisions of §30-19.03 of the Code of Virginia, the staff of the Commission on Local Government offers the following analysis of the above-referenced legislation:

I. Bill Summary

HB 1859 requires a local governing body to hold a rabies clinic at least once every three years. Currently, a clinic is to be held once a year if the local government finds that the number of resident veterinarians is inadequate to meet the need for rabies vaccination.

II. Fiscal Impact Analysis

The Commission on Local Government (CLG) received fiscal impact statements from 14 localities – the Counties of Arlington, Campbell, Henrico, Rappahannock, Spotsylvania, and Wise; the Cities of Chesapeake, Danville, Lynchburg, Norfolk, and Winchester; and the Towns of Louisa, Strasburg, and Wytheville.

Nine of the responding localities – the Counties of Arlington, Campbell, Henrico, and Spotsylvania; the Cities of Danville, Lynchburg, and Norfolk; and the Towns of Louisa and Wytheville – reported that they would not experience a net increase in expenditures.

Arlington County, Henrico County, City of Danville, City of Lynchburg, and the City of Norfolk are already holding rabies clinics more regularly than stipulated within the provisions of HB 1859.

Five of the responding localities – the Counties of Rappahannock and Wise; the Cities of Chesapeake and Winchester; and the Town of Wytheville – indicated that they would experience an expenditure increase of less than \$5,000.

III. Conclusion

HB 1859 will require a local governing body to conduct a rabies clinic at least once every three years. Under current law, a local governing body is required to hold a rabies clinic once a year only if they determine that the number of resident veterinarians is inadequate.

Some financial impact will be felt by localities that do not currently conduct rabies clinics at least once every three years. Among the respondents, most of the larger localities reported that they hold clinics more frequently and will not be affected by this legislation.

Of those respondents that indicated that they would experience a net increase in expenditures, none believed that it would exceed \$5,000. HB 1859 stipulated that clinics should be held at least once every three years, so costs for a single clinic can be smoothed over that time period.

It is likely that the financial impact of HB 1859 will be limited to smaller localities that are not currently conducting rabies clinics. The magnitude of the impact to those jurisdictions is likely to be small.