

**Department of Planning and Budget  
2014 Fiscal Impact Statement**

**1. Bill Number:** SB228

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

**2. Patron:**        Petersen, J.

**3. Committee:** Passed Both Houses.

**4. Title:**        Pet dealers; diseased animals; veterinary certificate.

**5. Summary:** This bill amends and expands current law regarding reimbursements when a consumer returns or retains a diseased dog or cat, live or dead, that has been certified by a veterinarian as being unfit for purchase. The bill specifies that, in the event that a licensed veterinarian certifies an animal to be unfit for purchase within 10 days following receipt of the animal, or within 14 days following receipt if the animal is infected with parvovirus, the consumer may choose: (i) to return the animal, or in the case of an animal that has died, the veterinary certification, and receive a refund of the purchase price including sales tax; or (ii) to return the animal and receive an exchange animal of his or her choice of equivalent value. In the case of an animal purchased from a pet shop or a USDA licensed dealer, the consumer also may choose to retain the animal and receive reimbursement of the cost of veterinary certification and veterinary fees in an amount up to the purchase price of the animal.

In addition, the bill requires a pet shop operating in the Commonwealth to post in a conspicuous place on or near the cage of any dog or cat available for sale the breeder's name, city, state, and USDA license number. Further, a pet shop or a USDA licensed dealer who advertises any dog or cat for sale in the Commonwealth, including by Internet advertisement, shall provide prior to the time of sale the breeder's name, city, state, and USDA license number.

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

**7. No State Fiscal Impact.**

**8. Fiscal Implications:** It is anticipated this bill will not have a fiscal impact on the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services.

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

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

**11. Other Comments:** None.