

Department of Planning and Budget 2017 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: SB852

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

2. Patron: Stanley

3. Committee: Passed both Houses.

4. Title: Pet shops; procurement of dogs from unlicensed dealers.

5. Summary: This bill prohibits any companion animal dealer who is not licensed by the U.S. Department of Agriculture from selling any dog to a pet shop. The bill also specifies that a pet shop shall sell or offer for adoption a dog procured by a person who has not received a citation for a direct or critical violation or citations for three or more indirect or noncritical violations and who has not obtained the dog from a person with such citations.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: No.

7. Fiscal Impact Estimates: Final.

8. Fiscal Implications: It is anticipated that this bill will not have a fiscal impact on the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services. However, the bill adds companion animal dealers to the prohibition provisions which are punishable as a Class 1 misdemeanor. As such, the proposal could result in an increase in the jail population since Class 1 misdemeanors are 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. Ultimately, the presiding judge will decide if there is to be any time served in jail; however, any increase in jail population will increase costs to the state. The Commonwealth presently pays the localities \$4.00 a day for each misdemeanant or otherwise local responsible prisoner held in a jail.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: Localities; local animal control officials; state and local courts and jails.

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No.

11. Other Comments: None.