

Department of Planning and Budget 2018 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: HB877

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

2. Patron: Orrock

3. Committee: Passed Both Houses.

4. Title: Pet shops; sale of dogs; maintenance and availability of records.

5. Summary: This bill amends the definition of "pet shop" and requires any pet shop that sells dogs to post a notice stating that USDA APHIS Inspection Reports are available prior to purchase. The bill requires the shop to (i) maintain a written record containing such reports and other detailed information about each dog, (ii) make the record available to purchasers and the Office of the State Veterinarian, and (iii) maintain the record for two years after selling a dog. Lastly, the bill requires pet shops to transmit the information required by the provisions of the bill to local animal control officers upon request.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: No.

7. Fiscal Impact Estimates: Final. See item 8.

8. Fiscal Implications: Under the Code of Virginia, VDACS and local governing bodies both are empowered to enforce the Comprehensive Animal Care laws. It is VDACS' policy to assist with the inspections of pet stores in cooperation with and at the request of localities. The bill may have an expenditure impact on localities as the primary enforcement officials for pet stores.

The fiscal impact of this bill on the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (VDACS) is indeterminate at this time. The bill's requirement that pet shops make USDA inspection reports available to the Office of the State Veterinarian upon reasonable notice may increase complaints, requests for records, and public demand for VDACS to oversee pet shops more directly. If so, VDACS may need to devote additional resources to respond to complaints as a result of the bill.

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

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No

11. Other Comments: None.