

Department of Planning and Budget 2018 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: SB28

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

2. Patron: Stanley

3. Committee: Appropriations

4. Title: Medical research on cats and dogs

5. Summary: The proposed legislation prohibits funds appropriated, granted or awarded by the Commonwealth to be used by any person or entity, private or public, to directly fund medically unnecessary research classified under pain and distress Category E by the U.S. Department of Agriculture on animal subjects.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: No.

7. Fiscal Impact Estimates: Preliminary. See Line 8.

8. Fiscal Implications: The U. S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) classifies animal research in four “Categories of Pain and Distress (B, C, D and E).” Institutions of higher education conducting research that falls within the four categories must report annually. When completing the report, researchers must assign each animal species listed to one of the four categories of pain/distress that apply to the animal at any time while on the protocol.

According to selected public institutions of higher education with extensive research programs, Category E research using cats and dogs is not currently underway at these institutions. However, advances in research projects are difficult to predict, so it is unknown if the institutions might pursue future research projects that may involve cats and dogs.

The bill clarifies that “direct funding of research” does not include the appropriation, grant, or award of funds for the construction or maintenance of facilities, including the purchase of maintenance of general-use equipment; overhead costs; capital improvements; or salaries for faculty and employees.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected:

Public institutions of higher education

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No.

11. Other Comments: None.