

Department of Planning and Budget 2020 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. **Bill Number:** SB304

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

2. **Patron:** Stanley

3. **Committee:** Passed the Senate.

4. **Title:** Animal shelter euthanasia rate.

5. **Summary:** Requires any public or private animal shelter or releasing agency to annually file with the State Veterinarian (i) a copy of its intake policy, (ii) the number of animals on which a euthanasia procedure was performed, and (iii) of such number, the number of animals (a) surrendered with the intent to euthanize and (b) presented by the public animal shelter to a licensed veterinarian prior to euthanasia. The provisions of the bill are contingent on funding in a general appropriation act.

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

7. **Fiscal Impact Estimates:** Preliminary.

8. **Fiscal Implications:** It is anticipated that there will be costs associated with the implementation of this bill; however, the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (VDACS) anticipates it will be able to absorb such costs. VDACS will be responsible for enforcing the provisions of this bill and providing guidance to animal shelters. Virginia has 155 public and private animal shelters and all would be required to report the number of animals euthanized at the request of the owner and the number of those animals that were seen by a licensed veterinarian prior to euthanasia. Currently, shelters are required to submit the total number of animals that have become the property of the shelter and the final disposition of each of those animals. The bill would require additional data tracking that cannot be accomplished by the existing database. The estimated a cost of the required updates is \$15,000.

The provisions of the bill are contingent on funding in a general appropriation act.

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

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

11. **Other Comments:** None.