

## Department of Planning and Budget 2021 Fiscal Impact Statement

**1. Bill Number:** SB1390

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

**2. Patron:** Lewis

**3. Committee:** Agriculture, Conservation and Natural Resources

**4. Title:** Cats; trap, neuter, and return programs; civil penalty.

**5. Summary:** Authorizes any public or private animal shelter, releasing agency, or hospital or clinic that is operated under the immediate supervision of a duly licensed veterinarian to operate a trap, neuter, and return program, as defined in the bill. The bill exempts volunteers of such program from provisions related to abandonment and licensing of animals and exempts the operator from general requirements of shelters related to holding periods, release of animals, and recordkeeping. A person who violates certain required provisions for such a program is subject to a civil penalty not to exceed \$150 brought by any animal control officer, humane investigator, releasing agency, or the State Veterinarian or State Veterinarian's representative.

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

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

**8. Fiscal Implications:** It is anticipated that this bill will not result in a fiscal impact to the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, as local animal control officers will be responsible for enforcing the provisions. The civil penalties provided in the bill are paid into the treasury of the city or county where such civil action is brought and used for the purpose of defraying the costs of local animal control, including efforts to promote sterilization of cats and dogs.

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

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

**11. Other Comments:** None.